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BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE:

REGULAR MONTHLY BUSINESS)

MEETING)

PARTIAL TRANSCRIPT AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 11

DATE AND TIME: Thursday, September 17, 1998

9:30 A.M.

PLACE: Board Hearing Room

8800 Cal Center Drive

Sacramento, California 95826

Reported By: Janene R. Biggs, CSR No. 11307

1	APPEARANCES
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3	Mr. Daniel G. Pennington, Chairman Mr. Robert C. Frazee, Vice Chairman
4	Mr. Dan Eaton, Member Mr. Steven R. Jones, Member
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1	SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
2	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1998, 9:30 A.M.
3	00
4	CALL TO ORDER
5	CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Good morning
6	and welcome to the September 17th meeting of the
7	California Integrated Waste Management Board, which is
8	really an extension of the September 10th meeting of
9	the California Integrated Waste Management Board.
10	Would the secretary call the roll, please?
11	THE SECRETARY: Board Member Eaton.
12	MEMBER EATON: Here.
13	THE SECRETARY: Frazee.
14	MEMBER FRAZEE: Here.
15	THE SECRETARY: Jones.
16	MEMBER JONES: Here.
17	THE SECRETARY: Chairman Pennington.
18	CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Here.
19	We have a quorum.
20	As the public will note, Board
21	Member Chesboro is absent today, as he is currently on
22	leave of absence. Therefore, his name will not be
23	included in today's roll call votes.
24	
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26	///

- 1 EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS
- 2 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Do any members have
- 3 ex partes?
- 4 I'll start with Mr. Frazee.
- 5 MEMBER FRAZEE: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I have
- 6 three that are not previously recorded in the record.
- 7 The first, a letter from Mr. Wayne Morgan of the North
- 8 Coast Unified Air Management District, Humboldt County
- 9 Transfer Station; a letter from Mr. John Woolley,
- 10 supervisor, County of Humboldt on the same subject; and
- 11 a letter from Ms. Virginia Johnson, executive director
- 12 of ecology action on the nonprofit opportunity oil
- 13 rigs.
- 14 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Thank you.
- Mr. Jones?
- 16 MEMBER JONES: The same three that
- 17 Mr. Frazee just read, as well as a brief conversation
- 18 with Denise Delmatier and Larry Sweetser from Norcal.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Mr. Eaton?
- 20 MEMBER EATON: Nice to see you. I thought
- 21 with we were in Santa Barbara, weren't we?
- I, too, have the same disclosures from
- 23 Mr. Morgan, Mr. Woolley, and Ms. Johnson, as well as a
- 24 brief conversation minus Mr. Sweetser with
- 25 Denise Palmatier, and I also have a letter regarding
- 26 rigs and enert debris from Ms. Linda Valasco, of the

- 1 Construction Association of California.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Thank you, and I also
- 3 have the Woolley/Morgan letters, as well as the
- 4 Virginia Johnson letter.
- 5 There are speaker request forms on the table
- 6 in the back of the room. If anybody wishes to address
- 7 the Board on any item, please fill out a form and hand
- 8 it to Ms. Kelly.
- 9 I might say that the number of people who
- 10 are speaking on the Humboldt County permit is growing,
- 11 and by the time we get to that, if it's grown anymore,
- 12 I will restrict comments to five minutes for each
- 13 person. I know there are some groups there, and we'll
- 14 extend that out for each person in the group so that
- 15 you'll all get a chance, but we don't want to be here
- 16 all day on this because we do have a heavy agenda. We
- 17 certainly want to hear from everybody who wants to talk
- 18 to us.
- 19 PROCEDURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 20 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Announcements.
- 21 Items 3, 4, and 5 are pulled from today's agenda.
- Item Number 9 will be heard as originally
- 23 noticed. The Board will hear the item on Humboldt
- 24 County permit following the Board's reports and
- 25 presentations. So that will be the first item up after
- 26 we do some housekeeping.

- 1 For the record, on September 10th, 1998, the
- 2 Board heard testimony on several issues before the
- 3 Board today. All testimony that has been entered --
- 4 all that testimony has been entered into the record for
- 5 today's meeting. So if you testified on the 10th, and
- 6 we did not have a quorum, I want you to understand that
- 7 testimony will become a part of today's proceedings --
- 8 in the record of today's proceedings.
- 9 First order of business that we'd like to
- 10 share with the public and my colleagues, a receipt of
- 11 an award from from Keep California Beautiful Board of
- 12 Directors and the state of California. This award
- 13 acknowledges the Board's efforts to protect the beauty
- 14 of California. It says, "Keep California beautiful,"
- 15 and "The people of the State of California extend their
- 16 appreciation to the California Integrated Waste
- 17 Management Board for your commitment in protecting the
- 18 beauty in the state of California, for your leadership,
- 19 dedication and service in the fourth annual April Keep
- 20 California Beautiful Month 1998, with sincere thanks
- 21 from First Lady Wilson and Barry Edwards, the
- 22 president."
- We'll make sure that Mr. Frith gets it put
- 24 up out front. Okay.
- Now we'll move any reports from Board
- 26 members who wish to make any reports.

- 1 REPORTS OF THE BOARD'S COMMITTEES
- 2 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Mr. Eaton?
- MEMBER EATON: Yes, Mr. Chair. Thank you.
- 4 Just a couple of matters.
- 5 I returned late last night from the National
- 6 Recycling Conference in Albuquerque. I just wanted to
- 7 report that it's heartening to see the kind of efforts
- 8 that are going around in our fellow states in terms of
- 9 moving recycling, reuse, and recovery along.
- 10 It was also disheartening to see that
- 11 California, while many reports, as it did a recap of
- 12 its history, was in the forefront of the movement in
- 13 trying to keep this activity going, that subsequent to
- 14 that, other states have surpassed us both in terms of
- 15 proactive stance as well as creativity, and I think
- 16 that due to this Board's commitment of just a couple of
- 17 months ago of trying not to let that happen, I think
- 18 surely it's both timely as well as effective. They,
- 19 too, also recognize the types of economics that are
- 20 governing the waste industry and the changes therein
- 21 are going to affect us as we move into the year 2000
- 22 and beyond, so I think just from a standpoint of what
- 23 we need to be doing, I think that it's not only timely,
- 24 but absolutely critical that we once again take the
- 25 lead in the nation as we did early on in terms of
- 26 protecting the public safety and health while at the

- 1 same time trying to sustain valuable resources. So I
- 2 think that was the one thing we took away.
- 3 When you look at the agenda for national you
- 4 only see one or two kind of items that may have had on
- 5 or two California speakers. It's different than it was
- 6 20 years ago, and I think that it's good that it
- 7 happens that way. I just think we need to work a
- 8 little harder, and I know that this Board wants to do
- 9 that. So hopefully in the future we'll all have an
- 10 opportunity to regain some of the prominence that we
- 11 once held.
- 12 In addition, I have a couple of discussion
- 13 items -- they're not really reports, but discussion
- 14 items -- I'd like to bring up. One involves Senate
- 15 Board 1299 as it relates to the streamlining process.
- It has come to my attention subsequently to
- 17 the time we acted upon this that a couple of
- 18 jurisdictions are seeking to petition the board on full
- 19 blown permits as well as transfer stations and other
- 20 kinds of things, and it kind of concerns me that we
- 21 haven't yet begun to set up a procedure for this kind
- 22 of petition, but if you remember early on, we talked
- 23 about this being limited to one particular tier and
- 24 type of kind of registration, and now we're seeing
- 25 ahead of time, even though we put the caveat in the
- 26 agreement of petition and we haven't had time yet to

- 1 develop any kind of procedures, and I'm concerned about
- 2 the fact that, one, we may find ourselves in time line
- 3 crunches if these types of activities take place. And,
- 4 two, the real reality of the situation is irrespective
- 5 of who wins the gubinatorial, there are going to be
- 6 changes in personnell that take place down at our
- 7 father agency -- or mother agency -- Cal APA as well as
- 8 in the governor's office, and that just strikes me as a
- 9 recipe for disaster, especially when we start working
- 10 through some of things, and I would hope that what we
- 11 might be able to do is rather than go forward, if we
- 12 could set an agenda item in the future, perhaps in a
- 13 month, at the end of next month, to kind of discuss
- 14 what procedures and what kind of action that we would
- 15 have for doing this. We haven't even begun to deal
- 16 with the registration permit yet alone a full blown
- 17 permit in the streamlining process. So I would like to
- 18 kind of just slow down and hopefully restrict sending
- 19 any kind of agreements out until we've had this kind of
- 20 opportunity to kind of work through the system and have
- 21 a discussion amongst ourselves, and I would ask our
- 22 fellow board members to concur in that without a formal
- 23 motion, but just as a way to kind of keep things
- 24 moving.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: As you know,
- 26 Mr. Eaton, the ability to put items on the agenda is

- 1 certainly an individual privilege that each Board
- 2 member can exercise, and if that's your request, we'll
- 3 certainly agendise the item for the October meeting. I
- 4 just want to be cautious that we don't start a process
- 5 of revisiting everything that we have dealt with
- 6 before, and it seemed to me that when we did deal with
- 7 this issue that part of our agreement was that we would
- 8 take a look at other than registration category on a
- 9 case-by-case basis, and it seems to me that that's what
- 10 is possible, and we haven't been notified of anything
- 11 formally at this point, and that's what we will be
- 12 asked to do.
- 13 MEMBER EATON: I would agree with you that
- 14 revisiting items is not always in the best interst of
- 15 the Board or the public. However, in a situation where
- 16 subsequent information has come to light, as well as
- 17 the very fact that it was envisioned at that time that
- 18 we would have at least a couple of registration permits
- 19 under our belt before we start taking up the petitions,
- 20 I think we ought to be in a position where in this
- 21 instance we have a situation wherein we have additional
- 22 subsequent information, we have a very, very, serious
- 23 situation which involves perhaps permits that are on
- 24 the horizon that it's worth at this point injunction to
- 25 take the prudent step and just kind of go through and
- 26 figure out how we want to work with this procedure for

- 1 not only the registration permit, but any other kind of
- 2 petition. We're doing this in other arenas as well,
- 3 and I think that rather than trying to react as we have
- 4 in other situations, this would be a way that everyone
- 5 would understand the rules of the game prior to seeking
- 6 any petition, because otherwise we make the rules up as
- 7 we go along.
- I think it's always better in a public
- 9 debate to have the rules set so the debate can go
- 10 forward.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Certainly. I would
- 12 certainly agree with that. I have no problem with
- 13 having the rules set. I don't like to make them up as
- 14 we go along, unless you allow the Chair to make them up
- 15 as we go along.
- 16 MEMBER EATON: I think we'll do that on a
- 17 case-by-case basis as well.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: As you requested, we
- 19 will agendise an item for one of next month's Board
- 20 meetings, and I ask that you work with Mr. Chandler and
- 21 Ms. Nauman to put together the items we have and their
- 22 understanding of what we're going to be looking at.
- 23 MEMBER EATON: And we'll look at the
- 24 proposed agreements, and kind of give an update to the
- 25 Board at that time.
- 26 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Fine. Thank

- 1 you.
- 2 MEMBER EATON: Thank you.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Mr. Jones, do you have
- 4 anything?
- 5 MEMBER JONES: Thank you, Mr. chairman.
- 6 Just to report on a meeting that took place
- 7 on September 2nd involving the Rubber Pavement
- 8 Association, CalTrans and our Board. It took place in
- 9 Sacramento. It was relating to -- what we were there
- 10 to do was to discuss ground rules, problems, benefits
- 11 related to each group's interests on rubberized asphalt
- 12 pavements on California highways. The Board,
- 13 Mr. Chairman, had asked me to take the lead on this,
- 14 and Keith Smith, Byron Fitzgerald, Martha Gildart and
- 15 myself attended representing the Board. CalTrans had
- 16 the Director of Highway Maintenance for the State of
- 17 California. He's got about a \$750 million budget.
- 18 Mr. Chandler was at the meeting for parts of the day.
- 19 They had the directors of new construction throughout
- 20 the roads of California, so -- as well as people from
- 21 the lab.
- 22 A little history was, RPA, Rubber Pavement
- 23 Association, who does a considerable amount of work in
- 24 the state of Arizona -- most of the roads in Arizona
- 25 are rubber asphalt roads, and they had worked out a
- 26 partnership with the Department of Transportation from

- 1 Arizona to try to work to come up with the proper
- 2 mixes, the proper operating procedures to ensure
- 3 successful rubberized asphalt projects in the state of
- 4 Arizona.
- 5 Martha Gildart joined the group from
- 6 CalTrans that toured roads in Arizona to look at a
- 7 couple -- I guess one failure, as well as quite a few
- 8 successful projects to try to get a comfort level.
- 9 RPA had actually come to the Waste Board to
- 10 ask if we would help participate in the meeting between
- 11 their association and CalTrans. CalTrans was talking
- 12 about the possibility of a cookbook or a menu or
- 13 something that laid out proper operating procedures and
- 14 would the Board be interested in potentially helping to
- 15 fund something like that, and my first reaction to that
- 16 question was, if we pay for a book is it going to sit
- 17 on somebody's shelf, or is it going to actually be used
- 18 to get rubber in the roads, and I didn't want to -- you
- 19 know, obviously I wanted to have more discussion, and I
- 20 was pleased at the meeting. The meeting was about a
- 21 13-and-a-half-hour meeting that, because of people's
- 22 schedules, we had to get it all done in one day, and I
- think we left at about 9:30 that night, whatever, 8:30.
- 24 But a very interesting point coming out is that
- 25 CalTrans feels a risk in using rubberized asphalt if it
- 26 is not applied correctly. If we all put ourselves in

- 1 that position of driving down the highway one year and
- 2 seeing CalTrans has done a road job and then a year and
- 3 a half later they're back there tearing it up using
- 4 dollars that can be used to do another road, obviously
- 5 we have a problem, and they come under a lot of
- 6 scrutiny.
- 7 So I think part of the day -- and I think
- 8 the Waste Board needs to be a aware of that, and I
- 9 think RPA needed to be aware of that and I think part
- 10 of the process of that day we were able to identify
- 11 that as a barrier, but we were also able to offer an
- 12 opportunity to the Rubber Pavement Association is that
- 13 because this is so critical to the growth of their
- 14 business, they need to make a commitment to be there at
- 15 the preconstruction meetings, at the -- when the
- 16 materials are being mixed, when they're being put down,
- 17 to make sure to insure that those rubberized asphalt
- 18 projects are done correctly, because they're usually --
- 19 a prime contractor subs that type of work out, so there
- 20 is an educational process that could be a fit for this
- 21 Board. This is just preliminary discussions as to
- 22 what -- you know, what our role would be or what could
- our role be, and that seemed like one, an educational
- 24 process to ensure good rubberized asphalt project, and,
- 25 you know, if someday we come up with a cookbook that
- 26 may be another one, if they promise to use it.

- 1 You know, it's something that could come
- 2 forward as a future project. I was very pleased with
- 3 our staff at the Waste Board that were part of that
- 4 project. I think we brought a lot of things to the
- 5 table. You all of a charter in front of you that I
- 6 passed out today. It was on my desk this morning.
- 7 This charter line by line got negotiated. It was very
- 8 clear, and it talks about working together and quality
- 9 products, but at the end, the last piece of this, and
- 10 Martha insisted, and after she left, I told them, "I'm
- 11 a heck of a lot bigger than she is, and it ain't coming
- 12 out, " so it stayed pretty much verbatim, and it says,
- 13 "One of our objectives is to deal with environmental
- 14 sensitivity to understand and be sensitive to the need
- 15 to recycle materials and realize the ultimate benefits
- 16 to society by proper design, application of quality
- 17 rubber asphalt pavements.
- So our message has been heard. CalTrans
- 19 understands that there is a mutually beneficial
- 20 marriage there if we can make sure that we have good
- 21 projects, and that's what we're going to have to work
- 22 towards.
- Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Good. Thank you,
- 25 Mr. Jones.
- Mr. Frazee?

- 1 MEMBER FRAZEE: Nothing from me, unless you
- 2 care to hear to saga of being trapped in Canada.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Thank you.
- 4 AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 2
- 5 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: We'll move on to
- 6 Item Number 2, report from the executive director.
- 7 Mr. Chandler?
- 8 MR. CHANDLER: Good morning, Mr. Chairman,
- 9 members.
- 10 In reviewing my report this morning,
- 11 Mr. Chairman, I think in the interest of time -- I know
- 12 we're going to be meeting in just a short five days --
- 13 most of the items are informational. I will be
- 14 providing a more recent update on the Roister
- 15 situation, so I think what I'm going to do is just pass
- 16 on this. Mr. Jones covered one of items very
- 17 completely in regard to the Rubber Pavement
- 18 Association. So you can expect next week in
- 19 Santa Barbara that I'll be providing a little bit more
- 20 update on the Roister situation and a little bit more
- 21 update on pertinent matters, but I think in the
- 22 interest of time I'm going to pass on this report and,
- 23 we'll just move to regular business.
- 24 Thank you.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Thank you,
- 26 Mr. Chandler.

- 1 Any questions of Mr. Chandler, by the way,
- 2 that the Board has?
- Okay.
- 4 AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 11
- 5 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: We'll move to
- 6 continuing business, Item Number 11, Consideration of a
- 7 New Solid Waste Facility Permit for the Humboldt County
- 8 Waste Management Authority temporary transfer station
- 9 in Humboldt County.
- 10 Again I want to point out that, we did
- 11 receive some testimony on this item on September 10th.
- 12 That testimony will be made a part of the record of
- 13 today's proceeding.
- Julie Nauman.
- MS. NAUMAN: Mr. Chairman and members,
- 16 Georgianne Turner will make the presentation.
- MS. TURNER: As I'm sure you recall and
- 18 mentioned, this item was heard before the August 26th
- 19 board meeting and the Board received testimony from
- 20 citizens regarding this issue on September 10th. We
- 21 are hearing this item today as a carryover item from
- 22 the scheduled September 10th Board meeting, and, for
- 23 the record, it should be noted the Board 60-day time
- 24 frame to act on the permit would have normally ended on
- 25 September 11th. However, the applicant has agreed to
- 26 extend the Board's time frame to September 25th, 1998,

- 1 and they did so in a letter dated September 11th, 1998.
- 2 To refresh everyone's memory on the project
- 3 description briefly, I'd like to go over the
- 4 description of the project.
- 5 This is for a new solid waste facility
- 6 transfer station in Arcata, California. They would be
- 7 accepting 550 tons per day on a 2.5 acre parcel.
- 8 Operational hours would be 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- 9 Monday through Friday, and 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on
- 10 Saturday. Handling and processing of waste would be
- 11 allowed to occur one half hour before opening hours and
- 12 one half hour after closing hours.
- This facility will only handle commercial
- 14 haulers, and the waste will be transferred to Dry Creek
- 15 Landfill in Medford, Oregon.
- I thought at this time it may be helpful to
- 17 just look at the site map just so everyone's familiar
- 18 with that and show a few pictures of the site. I
- 19 thought it would be helpful just to point out the
- 20 access point and the route the trucks would come into
- 21 the site. This (indicating) is the access that the
- 22 trucks would be coming in on here, and they would be
- 23 following Don's pen around here (indicating) to the
- 24 transfer station. That area (indicating) in the gray
- 25 is the permitted boundary, and just a note that there
- 26 is a saw milling operation to the west of the facility,

- 1 and it's a little bit off your map now, but to the east
- 2 of the facility is a wood chipping operation. The
- 3 offices would be created just north of there.
- 4 This is just some background for you. I
- 5 thought to show about four pictures of the existing
- 6 site as it looks now. This (indicating) is the road --
- 7 the access road that the trucks would be using, which
- 8 would be Route 255. This (indicating) is the pull-off
- 9 area that we showed on the site map where the trucks
- 10 would be pulling off off the main road to enter the
- 11 facility, and that (indicating) sign would be improved
- 12 with a new sign of the transfer station acceptable
- 13 waste and so forth.
- 14 This (indicating) is a picture of the
- 15 current parcel where the building will go on. They've
- 16 been preparing for the location of the building. This
- 17 is another picture of the site as it looks today.
- Thanks, Don.
- 19 At the August 26th Board meeting, staff
- 20 recommended and the Board voted for zero for the
- 21 applicant to carry this item over to the September 10th
- 22 board meeting do to the outstanding CEQA issues. Since
- 23 that meeting and through the September 10th hearing,
- 24 staff have been working with the City of Arcata, who is
- 25 the lead agency for the project, and the applicant and
- 26 the LEA to develop an adequate additional CEQA

- documentation for Board concurrence.
- 2 As per the staff recommendation and the
- 3 Board direction, the applicant has addressed five items
- 4 asked for in the August 26th action. I would just like
- 5 to go over those briefly.
- 6 They have addressed the exact location of
- 7 the project. They've addressed the numbers and types
- 8 of existing trucks travelling from Medford, Oregon to
- 9 Arcata, California. The project description now
- 10 excludes the rail movement from the project
- 11 description. It addresses self-hall operations, and it
- 12 also addresses the fact the CEQA analysis does not
- 13 cover any activity other than that on this location,
- 14 and that the Authority intends to prepare an EIR for
- 15 the project as described in the Notice of Preparation
- 16 for the permitted facility, and that the Authority will
- 17 not use the negative declaration and addendum as part
- 18 of the CEQA documentation for the permanent facility.
- 19 Pursuant to CEQA guidelines 15164, the lead
- 20 agency has prepared the addendum that I just spoke of
- 21 addressing those issues, an addendum data
- 22 September 14th and has satisfactorily addressed those
- 23 issues asked for in the August 26th Board meeting.
- 24 As a responsible agency, it's appropriate
- 25 for the Board to adopt the addendum for the following
- 26 reasons:

- One is to clarify the project description in
- 2 the negative declaration, which could have been
- 3 interpreted differently than the lead agency's intent.
- 4 Secondly, to include additional evidence in
- 5 the record including that given during the public
- 6 hearing and to show that the conditions specified in
- 7 the CEQA guidelines, Section 15162, which would
- 8 necessitate preparation at a subsequent IER having
- 9 occurred. Those conditions have not occurred.
- 10 And lastly, to show that although the Notice
- 11 of Preparation was prepared for the permitted facility,
- 12 which could have the perception for a segmented
- 13 project, this temporary project and the CEQA analysis
- 14 does not replace the full analysis that would need to
- 15 be prepared for the permanent project.
- Due to the fact that the Board needs to act
- 17 on the addendum for the reasons I just gave, there are
- 18 two resolutions that have been prepared for your action
- 19 today. The first would be the action on the approval
- 20 of the addendum, and the second would be the action on
- 21 the proposed permit.
- 22 Based on the information that we have now,
- 23 the Board staff recommend the adoption of Resolution
- 98316, adopting the September 14th addendum to the
- 25 mitigated negative declaration and the adoption of the
- 26 Resolution 98317 in the concurrence of the issuance of

- 1 the solid waste facility's permit, 12-AA0108.
- 2 At this time, this concludes my
- 3 presentation. The LEA was unable to be here due to fog
- 4 in Arcata, California. I'm sure at this time there are
- 5 several people that may want to speak on this item.
- 6 MS. TOBIAS: Mr. Chairman?
- 7 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Sure.
- 8 MS. TOBIAS: May I add that we received a
- 9 fax from the Northcoast Unified Air Quality District,
- 10 which is an addendum to the letter that you received
- 11 this morning. So Marlene has that and can pass that
- 12 out. Maybe she already has. It's front and back. I
- 13 see Dan has it.
- 14 Could you pass it down? And then there's
- 15 enough that there's some that can go on the back
- 16 counter.
- I just wanted to add that came in by fax
- 18 this morning.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. This is an
- 20 addendum to the letter you received yesterday?
- 21 MS. TOBIAS: Yes, that we received late last
- 22 night.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Any questions
- of staff at this time? Maybe we'll take a minute and
- 25 let us read this letter. Okay.
- 26 We will now move to public comment for those

- 1 of you who were interested. We did put some of these
- 2 (indicating) back there, I hope.
- We'll start. One thing I want to say is we
- 4 have quite a few, about almost 20 people that want to
- 5 address us this morning, so I will ask that you kind of
- 6 keep your comments to about five minutes. I don't have
- 7 a stopwatch, so I'm not going to, you know, hammer you
- 8 down at four minutes 59 seconds. So if you'd cooperate
- 9 and try to keep it short, we'd appreciate it.
- 10 We're going to start with Victor Schaub.
- 11 Let me just also add that if you have a
- 12 notice that -- Norcal wants to do it in a certain
- 13 order -- if you have a group that you want to do it in
- 14 a certain order, let me know.
- MR. SCHAUB: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 16 I'm the general counsel for the Waste
- 17 Authority, the applicant, and I'll defer to Stan Dixon
- 18 who's going to speak on our behlaf. I just put in a
- 19 Speaker card in the event that I wanted to do some
- 20 rebuttal at some point.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Fine. You let us know
- 22 if you want to.
- 23 Mr. Stan Dixon.
- MR. DIXON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, I am
- 26 Stan Dixon, a member the Humboldt County Board of

- 1 Supervisors, and the county's representative to the
- 2 Humboldt County Solid Waste Management Authority, and I
- 3 want to take this opportunity to thank the Board. As
- 4 you know we were here last week and had the opportunity
- 5 to meet with your staff and some of the members, and we
- 6 found those meetings to be very productive. We learned
- 7 a great deal. We went away understanding that this is
- 8 a complex process, and we have attempted to provide
- 9 during this interim week the kinds of information to
- 10 answer questions, and we hope resolve any remaining
- 11 issues that might have been outstanding.
- We are here today because we wanted the
- 13 blessing of your Board, as opposed to having taken a
- 14 permit by default because your Board wasn't able to
- 15 meet last week. We think that the citizens of Humboldt
- 16 County deserve to have your Board consider our
- 17 application on its merits, and that's why we're here.
- 18 We hope and believe that all the issues that
- 19 have been raised, both by your staff and by your Board,
- 20 that all the directions that were given to us by your
- 21 Board at the August 25th meeting and through the
- 22 discussions we had last week have been complied with.
- 23 We believe that the underlining CEQA documents that you
- 24 have before you, including the addendum have been
- 25 satisfactorily completed, are in compliance with CEQA
- 26 laws, and we hope that we have honored the commitment

- 1 made by you and your staff to do those things that were
- 2 requested of the Authority.
- 3 I don't intend to be anything but brief here
- 4 this morning, Mr. Chairman. We do have representatives
- 5 from Humboldt County, including Mr. Schaub, our general
- 6 counsel, Anne E. Mudge, CEQA attorney who has been also
- 7 advising us, Mayor Carlos Benemann from the city of
- 8 Ferndale, who is also representative on the Waste
- 9 Authority, and Gerald Kindsfather, our general manager.
- 10 We would be happy to answer any questions
- 11 that may arise, and again, I hope that your Board will
- 12 find that the recommendations of your staff regarding
- 13 the resolution to adopt the addendum and to grant us
- 14 our permit would be followed. We're here to answer any
- 15 questions you might have.
- 16 Thank you.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Any questions of
- 18 Supervisor Dixon?
- 19 Okay. Thank you.
- Now, would you like to --
- 21 Gerald Kindsfather, you wish to speak to? I'm just
- 22 asking. You're welcome to. I'm just trying to keep it
- 23 straight here.
- MR. KINDSFATHER: Thank you Chairman and
- 25 Board members. The staff and the Board of the Humboldt
- 26 County -- my name is Gerald Kindsfather, general

- 1 manager of the Humboldt County Waste Management
- 2 Authority.
- 3 Both the staff and board of the Authority
- 4 recognize the need for doing a public hearing in regard
- 5 to the potential loss of self-haul. In our discussions
- 6 about this, we came to realize that we should do it
- 7 regardless of what City Garbage decides for two
- 8 reasons. One is it will help us to focus our efforts.
- 9 We have the whole series of potential mitigations. It
- 10 will be to our benefit to hear what the public has to
- 11 say so we know what they want, and that will help us to
- 12 focus our efforts to give them what they want.
- 13 The other is, sometimes the public has
- 14 suggestions that we haven't thought of, so we are quite
- 15 anxious to hold this public hearing. We would like to
- 16 put the notice for the public hearing in next Monday's
- 17 paper and do it as soon as possible after that.
- 18 We do also recognize that the CEQA process
- 19 for this particular site is not transferable to the
- 20 permanent site. We plan on going to work right away on
- 21 the CEQA process for that permanent site. In fact, we
- 22 have some components already in place.
- 23 There are some Arcata residents here today
- 24 and they're primarily -- as I understand their concern
- 25 is that we will be in Arcata longer than we have
- 26 promised. I assure you and them that we want to move

- 1 on to the permanent site as soon as possible for a
- 2 number of reasons. One is, the design of that facility
- 3 will be more efficient than we have at this interim
- 4 facility. There will be an aggressive recycling
- 5 program at that facility which we do not have here.
- 6 It's closer to the centroid of waste, the greatest
- 7 generation of waste.
- 8 Also there are plans for household hazardous
- 9 waste collection and self-haul at that facility. So
- 10 we're quite anxious -- I assure the residents of Arcata
- 11 that are concerned about this that we plan on -- this
- 12 is an interim facility and we do plan on moving to the
- 13 permanent facility as soon as possible and going
- 14 through that CEQA process with you, complete and
- 15 separate from this one, and I'll be here to answer any
- 16 questions if you have any.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Do you have any
- 18 questions?
- 19 Okay. Thank you, sir.
- 20 Carlos Benemann.
- 21 MR. BENEMANN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and
- 22 members of the Board. My name is Carlos Benemann. I'm
- 23 the mayor of Ferndale, one of the six cities in
- 24 Humboldt County that propose to use the temporary
- 25 transfer station for which we seek this permit.
- I represent people. I don't represent any

- 1 companies or corporations. I have no ax to grind other
- 2 than the public interest.
- I want to urge the Board to approve this
- 4 permit, because we have been working for the solution
- 5 to our solid waste problem in Humboldt County for many
- 6 years now. All 35 county and city officials -- elected
- 7 city officials in Humboldt County have unanimously
- 8 joined in agreeing on this course of action and
- 9 proposed that we form a joint powers authority of which
- 10 I'm also a member and which I represent here along with
- 11 Stan Dixon.
- I want to emphasize again that I don't
- 13 believe that there's any significant environmental
- 14 issue now before you. We are complying with all legal
- 15 and technical issues that have been raised by your
- 16 staff. We have answered all the questions that have
- 17 been asked by the staff regarding this permit.
- In conclusion, I just hope that you will
- 19 approve this permit.
- Thank you very much.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Thank you.
- 22 Any questions of the mayor?
- Okay. Next we have Anne E. Mudge.
- MS. MUDGE: Good morning, Mr. Chairman.
- 25 Anne Mudge, Outside CEQA Counsel for the Authority.
- I've been asked to review the validity of

- 1 the CEQA process in the preparation of the mitigated
- 2 negative declaration and the addendum, and I find it to
- 3 be an adequate and compliant means to comply with CEQA
- 4 for this project.
- 5 You have heard, and you will likely yet
- 6 hear, suggestions that there are environmental impacts
- 7 that have not been mitigated. I've reviewed the
- 8 documents. I don't believe that there is any credible
- 9 evidence that this project will have a significant
- 10 environmental impact that cannot be mitigated.
- 11 Thank you.
- 12 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Thank you.
- 13 Any questions of Ms. Nudge?
- Okay. Mr. Schaub, did you want to say
- 15 anything at this time?
- Now, we'll move to Denise Delmatier, and I
- 17 understand you have a list of who goes when.
- 18 MS. DELMATIER: Good morning, Mr. Chairman
- 19 and members of the Board. My name is Denise Delmatier
- 20 on behalf of Norcal Waste Systems, and we're here to
- 21 oppose the permit application. We're here to oppose
- 22 adoption of the addendum.
- 23 It should not come as a surprise that we do
- 24 not agree with staff's recommendation, and while we
- 25 certainly respect the individuality and the wherewithal
- 26 by which staff has come to their conclusion, we simply

- 1 respectfully agree to disagree. We do not view
- 2 these -- this proposed addendum to contain minor
- 3 technical clarifications. We view and we will
- 4 establish substantial evidence for the record today
- 5 that, in fact, we have credible evidence that will
- 6 establish that the creation of a new, significant
- 7 impact has occurred with this addendum and, in fact, a
- 8 change of the project description.
- 9 We urge the Board to deny adoption of the
- 10 addendum and object to the permit before today and to
- 11 do so, in fact, today. Enough is enough. Send the
- 12 right message to the applicant. This permit
- 13 application is not in proper form, has not followed
- 14 proper procedure, and should be sent back and come back
- 15 with a complete document, a complete document that
- 16 provides the adequate CEQA documentation and addresses,
- 17 in fact, the concerns that we will demonstrate this
- 18 morning, that the residents of the city of Arcata --
- 19 and I might note there is no representative from the
- 20 city of Arcata here today. We heard from Ferndale; we
- 21 heard from Humboldt County, but the lead agency the
- 22 city of Arcata is not here this morning. The residents
- 23 are here as well as my client, Norcal Waste Systems.
- 24 We don't believe that the process has been
- 25 complied with. We believe that we have repeatedly
- 26 advised the applicant you have deficiencies in your

- 1 CEQA documentation. You have a project proposed that
- 2 will, in fact, negatively impact the air quality in a
- 3 nonattainment region. Not only that, but the truck
- 4 haul project proposed takes the waste from a
- 5 nonattainment region and transfers that waste to
- 6 another nonattainment region.
- 7 The residents of the city of Arcata have a
- 8 right to have their voice heard. This meeting this
- 9 morning will eventually sound like a city council
- 10 hearing, as well it should. That is the proper venue
- 11 for addressing the significant impact of environmental
- 12 degredation under CEQA. This is not, again, minor
- 13 technical clarifications.
- 14 The applicant had plenty of opportunity and,
- 15 in fact, the lead agency, the city of Arcata, had a
- 16 council meeting last night. There was no notice to
- 17 adopt the addendum. They had that opportunity if they
- 18 had wanted to, but they chose not to. Again, there's
- 19 been plenty of opportunity to provide that
- 20 documentation and to provide that record. Instead,
- 21 what we have here this morning is, the city of Arcata
- 22 has asked you, the Board, to do the little dirty work
- 23 for them, to adopt an addendum that is not consistent
- 24 with the CEQA process or procedure.
- 25 By their own admission there are other
- 26 alternative disposal options available, and those have

- 1 been in the public arena -- discussed in the public
- 2 arena. The drop-dead date that has been discussed in
- 3 the background, the October 1 date, the applicant won't
- 4 even have their facility up and running on October 1,
- 5 so this threat of emergency doesn't exist. They won't
- 6 have their facility in operation on October 1.
- 7 It would be extremely unfortunate, I
- 8 believe, for the Board to depart from its long-standing
- 9 history of providing equity and parity for all
- 10 applicants, whether they be public or private, or
- 11 whether it be small or large.
- 12 We never attempt to bring this kind of a
- 13 permit before you and force the Board to do something
- 14 it should not, and that is, ignore the facts that, in
- 15 fact, we do have a significant impact that does not
- 16 meet state minimum standards and, therefore, should not
- 17 receive your blessing this morning.
- 18 Following me will be Norcal CEQA Attorney
- 19 Marcus La Duca, and he will provide you with testimony
- 20 that provides for the inadequacy, both substantively as
- 21 well as procedurally, on the CEQA process.
- In addition, Pat Sullivan, Norcal's air
- 23 quality expert will, in fact, provide the substantive
- 24 testimony for the record that establishes that this new
- 25 information that was submitted in detail last week,
- 26 formally, to the Board will, in fact, create a new

- 1 significant impact on air quality.
- 2 Don Gambelin from Norcal will then provide
- 3 you with deficiencies in state minimum standards, and
- 4 Larry Sweetser will be providing you with information
- 5 outlining the deficiencies and compliance with AB 939
- 6 planning documents. I will then provide you with a few
- 7 brief closing remarks.
- 8 On the minimum standard issue, it should
- 9 come as no surprise when you have a facility that's
- 10 identified as accepting fish waste, dead animals,
- 11 sewage sludge, asbestos containing waste, that you do
- 12 have minimum standard issues, and, in fact, you can
- 13 have vector problems, noise problems, air problems,
- 14 odor problems.
- 15 Quite frankly I just found a little resident
- 16 rodent of the Board that crossed my path as I entered
- 17 the building. It happens, but this is not a facility
- 18 that accepts fish waste, dead animals, sewage sludge,
- 19 and asbestos containing waste.
- 20 Now, I do want to mention, though, I don't
- 21 want that little resident rodent identified and done
- 22 away with --
- 23 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: He can't vote either.
- MS. DELMATIER: Yes. But it is important to
- 25 note that these things do exist. They exist here, and
- 26 they're certainly going to exist at this facility. We

- 1 urge your no vote. We ask you to look at the facts for
- 2 what they are, but not put blinders on and play the
- 3 shell game that is going on with this application.
- 4 Thank you.
- 5 MR. LA DUCA: Mr. Chairman and members of
- 6 the Board, Marcus La Duca, Sandberg & La Duca on behalf
- 7 of Norcal Waste Systems and City Garbage Company.
- 8 We reviewed the proposed addendum for your
- 9 Board, dated September 14th. Based on the evidence
- 10 before you, the evidence we've submitted in the past,
- 11 our position on that addendum, as on the previous
- 12 environmental document, and that our position as stated
- in our letter to you last week of the 9th stands,
- 14 again, that we urge you to reject the addendum and deny
- 15 the permit.
- Your staff has noted in their presentation,
- 17 addendum can only be adopted if minor technical changes
- 18 or additions are necessary under the State CEQA
- 19 guidelines. The addendum cannot be adopted if changes
- 20 to the proposed project create a new significant
- 21 impact. Here the change from rail haul to truck haul
- 22 alone has created a new significant impact, which we've
- 23 had SCS Engineers prepare an air quality study, a
- 24 quantitative study, an analysis that concludes that the
- 25 particulate matters threshold, CEQA threshold, in the
- 26 North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District as

- 1 relayed by that district to SCS Engineers, has been
- 2 exceeded by a factor of three to six times caused by
- 3 two factors.
- 4 The first is the increased mileage of
- 5 collection trucks from the current transfer station in
- 6 Eureka driving to Arcata, the proposed transfer station
- 7 site. A total of 906 miles every day, which as the
- 8 fax -- I guess it was just received this morning --
- 9 confirms that that number is a correct number to use.
- 10 The second item is the difference in
- 11 emissions between loaded and unloaded trucks making the
- 12 back haul trip to Medford, Oregon.
- With that, I'd like to introduce
- 14 Pat Sullivan from SCS Engineers and then conclude with
- 15 a few comments on the CEQA process.
- MR. SULLIVAN: Members of the Board, and
- 17 ladies and gentlemen, I'm Pat Sullivan from SCS
- 18 Engineers. SCS is an environmental and engineering
- 19 consulting firm that specializes in landfills and solid
- 20 waste facilities. My particular specialty within SCS
- 21 is air quality, and within that includes estimating air
- 22 quality impacts for the CEQA process.
- I was approached by City Garbage of Eureka
- 24 to calculate emissions for several proposed scenarios
- 25 resulting from the temporary transfer station. At the
- 26 time I was asked to do this analysis, I actually was

- 1 not aware of which side of the debate I would be on,
- 2 nor that there actually was a debate on this issue. My
- 3 sole purpose was to decide was there any potential --
- 4 and that's an important word -- is there any potential
- 5 for this project to exceed the CEQA significance levels
- 6 for air quality.
- 7 In that vein of looking at the potential for
- 8 that excedence, I enlisted a methodology that I'll term
- 9 a "screening bear impact analysis," and what I mean by
- 10 "screening" is that screening is a conservative
- 11 estimate. Screening is meant in order of magnitude
- 12 check on whether this project has the potential to be
- 13 significant. The screening estimates may not be the
- 14 final and best emission estimates for the project, but
- 15 they give you an idea of whether the significance
- 16 levels could be exceeded, and if, indeed, they are
- 17 exceeded, then a further detailed analysis would have
- 18 to be done to show that either, one, the significance
- 19 levels are not exceeded, or, two, that they can be
- 20 mitigated.
- In terms of the methodology I use, I
- 22 actually estimate emissions for two separate scenarios.
- 23 Those scenarios include additional vehicle miles to the
- 24 new transfer station, which Marcus spoke of as 906
- 25 additional miles per day that would be travelled to the
- 26 new transfer station, and the second scenario was, the

- 1 transfer of refuse via loaded transfer vehicles to a
- 2 landfill in Medford, Oregon versus those same transfer
- 3 vehicles travelling to Medford, Oregon unloaded.
- 4 In doing that analysis, I looked at a couple
- 5 different methodologies for estimating emissions, and
- 6 these are techniques that I use commonly and are used
- 7 commonly to do these screening levels analyses. The
- 8 first one used the U.S. EPA's methodology for
- 9 estimating emissions from paved roadways -- vehicle
- 10 travel on paved roadways. And the second methodology
- 11 is outlined in the South Coast Air Quality Management
- 12 District's CEQA guidelines for estimating emissions
- 13 from vehicles on paved roadways.
- I also estimated emissions -- exhaust
- 15 emissions of the vehicles for the scenario that
- 16 included the additional 906 miles per day within the
- 17 distance to the new transfer station. I did not,
- 18 however, estimate the emissions -- increase in
- 19 emissions that would be caused by having those transfer
- 20 vehicles travel loaded approximately each 206 miles one
- 21 way to the landfill in Medford, Oregon. That's a more
- 22 detailed analysis that I did not choose to undertake.
- 23 Because of the actual road that's traveled in that
- 24 regard and the dips and valleys in terms of elevation
- 25 climbs and drops, that's a very difficult analysis to
- 26 do, looking at the exhaust emissions from those

- vehicles travelling loaded versus unloaded.
- In terms of the results of my analysis, the
- 3 results of my analysis basically concluded that the
- 4 emissions from the scenario which includes the in town
- 5 travel miles to the new transfer station could be as
- 6 high as 45 tons per year of particulate matter less
- 7 than 10 microns, or PM10. That same analysis concluded
- 8 that particulate matter emissions from the additional
- 9 loaded vehicles travelling to Medford, Oregon could be
- 10 as high as 92 tons per year. Both of those values
- 11 individually as well as cumulatively exceed the North
- 12 Coast Unified AQMD significance level as instructed by
- 13 a member of their staff to use, which is 15 tons per
- 14 year of particulate matter less than 10 microns.
- 15 What this means in terms of a conclusion and
- 16 what should have happened in this process, is, number
- one, a more detailed CEQA analysis should have been
- 18 done to evaluate the air quality impacts. To date
- 19 there has not been, other than our own, a quantitative
- 20 analysis of this matter. A quantitative analysis
- 21 should have been done, and I believe the most
- 22 appropriate place to do that quantitative analysis and
- 23 present that data would be within an environmental
- 24 impact report, and that vein all the stakeholders as
- 25 well as the North Coast AQMD could comment on that and
- 26 comment on the methodology and how it was used to

- 1 estimate emissions.
- This morning we are in receipt, as you are,
- 3 of the letter from the North Coast AQMD, as well as an
- 4 addendum to that letter, and in terms of a final
- 5 conclusion, I'm going to try to rebut those comments
- 6 that were made by the North Coast AQMD.
- 7 Of their comments, the most important ones,
- 8 the ones that affect the air quality impact analysis,
- 9 include the selection of emission factors. The North
- 10 Coast AQMD believes that the selection of emission
- 11 factors used for our analysis are too high, especially
- 12 considering the climate conditions in the north coast.
- 13 However, I point out that, first, the North Coast AQMD
- 14 understates the emission factors that are typically
- 15 used in California for these types of analyses. In
- 16 fact, they state that in desert regions, the highest
- 17 value that they could see used was about 45 grams per
- 18 mile. The South Coast AQMD, which, of course, covers a
- 19 large amount of the desert regions in California,
- 20 actually uses an emission factor of over 900 grams per
- 21 mile for desert regions, paved roads that do not
- 22 undergo some form of dust control or not cleaned or
- 23 otherwise naturally wet.
- 24 Second the South Coast AQMD utilizes a value
- 25 of approximate 181 grams per mile for roads -- paved
- 26 roads that are actually subjected to dust control

- 1 measures via cleaning and road sweeping.
- 2 So in that vein I believe that the North
- 3 Coast AQMD has actually underestimated the emission
- 4 factors that would typically be used for these
- 5 analyses.
- 6 Second, the North Coast AQMD, in their
- 7 letter, comments on a conversation I had with
- 8 Mr. Bob Torsinsky of the District, in which
- 9 Mr. Torsinsky instructed me not to use the South Coast
- 10 AQMD emission factors. In fact, the emission factor
- 11 that I had discussed with Mr. Torsinsky was the value
- 12 of 900 grams per mile, which was for paved roads that
- 13 were not subjected to street cleaning. Following his
- 14 advice, I choose to use a value of 181 grams per mile
- 15 reducing those emissions by approximately 80 percent.
- 16 For an emission factor, the South Coast AQMD
- 17 identifies as emission factor for paved roads for which
- 18 there is either natural wetting or for which there is
- 19 actual street cleaning and dust control.
- 20 So I felt that that was the appropriate
- 21 emission factor to use, especially for a screening
- 22 level valuation.
- 23 Also, North Coast AQMD points out that they
- 24 do not believe that loaded vehicles would have anymore
- 25 dust emissions than unloaded vehicles. I believe that
- 26 to be incorrect. In fact, U.S. EPA, in their own

- 1 methodology, states that weight of the vehicle directly
- 2 impacts fugitive dust emissions from roads. And in
- 3 their equation for estimating those emissions, the dust
- 4 emissions are clearly affected in a direct relationship
- 5 by the weight of the vehicle. So when those vehicles
- 6 which would have been returning to Medford, Oregon
- 7 unloaded are loaded with up to 25 tons of refuse, as
- 8 the applicant has stated, that would indeed increase
- 9 emissions, which I believe the North Coast AQMD
- 10 overlooks.
- 11 Also, the North Coast AQMD points out that
- 12 they do not have an official CEQA significance level
- 13 for particulate matter or for any pollutant. That is
- 14 true. However, I was instructed to use 15 tons per
- 15 year because that is the major source -- stationary
- 16 source threshold that the North Coast AQMD has in their
- 17 regulations, and that would be appropriate to use for
- 18 this analysis.
- Judging from their nonattainment status for
- 20 particulate matter, I would see it be very peculiar
- 21 that they would be willing to change that on a
- 22 project-specific basis, especially when they're having
- 23 trouble themselves meeting the particulate matter
- 24 standard set by the State of California.
- 25 Finally, and to conclude, in terms of how
- 26 this process should have been undertaken, it is my

- 1 opinion that this air quality impact analysis -- this
- 2 detailed air quality impact analysis should have been
- 3 done as part of an environmental impact report process.
- 4 Then all of the issues that we're here today to discuss
- 5 would be taken care and it wouldn't be before you
- 6 presenting testimony that should have been reserved for
- 7 another forum. Had they done that, had they done a
- 8 quantitative evaluation of air impacts and been able to
- 9 prove to the satisfaction of the stakeholders and the
- 10 North Coast AQMD that there were not impacts, again, we
- 11 would not be here discussing this particular topic.
- 12 So finally to conclude, again, and to
- 13 summarize that it's my opinion and the opinion of City
- 14 Garbage of Eureka, that there is a potential for the
- 15 emissions from this project to exceed significance
- 16 levels and that something should have been done to
- 17 address that as part of the CEQA process.
- Thank you.
- 19 MEMBER EATON: Mr. Chair?
- 20 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Yes, Mr. Eaton.
- 21 MEMBER EATON: I'd like a point of
- 22 clarification, either from the proponents and or the
- 23 opponents, and it doesn't matter who answers, whether
- 24 the Authority or the opponents.
- The 906 miles, is that the cumulative number
- 26 of miles for all the trucks or individual trucks?

- 1 just need a point of clarification.
- 2 MR. GAMBELIN: The 906 miles is for City
- 3 Garbage Company trucks --
- 4 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Excuse me. Identify
- 5 yourself.
- 6 MR. GAMBELIN: I'm sorry. Donald Gambelin
- 7 from Norcal Waste Systems.
- 8 The 906 miles is a daily number of miles for
- 9 City Garbage Company trucks having to travel now,
- 10 instead of to the transfer station in Eureka, to go
- 11 from Eureka to Arcata. And we undertook that
- 12 investigation, because at the August 26th meeting,
- 13 Board Member Jones specifically asked staff, "What is
- 14 the effect of those truck miles?" Staff responded that
- 15 it was more traffic patterns, but we understood that
- 16 when you ask a question like that you have to also
- 17 include air quality issues. And so the 906 miles is
- 18 day in and day out, five days a week City Garbage
- 19 Company trucks -- collection trucks will travel an
- 20 additional 906 miles to access that transfer station.
- 21 MEMBER EATON: Collectively.
- MR. GAMBELIN: Above and beyond what they
- 23 currently travel, collectively.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Mr. Frazee.
- 25 MEMBER FRAZEE: Could I follow up on that
- 26 either with the gentleman who presented the air quality

- 1 information?
- 2 The figures that you calculated on the
- 3 impacts of the additional trucks plus the line haul,
- 4 did you deduct from that the offset that would occur by
- 5 the fact that those trucks no longer go to the existing
- 6 transfer station, and then the impacts of the haul of
- 7 the transfer trailers to the Cummings Road landfill and
- 8 then the operation of the Cummings Road landfill? Did
- 9 you deduct all of those out of the equation?
- 10 MR. SULLIVAN: No, I did not, and there's an
- 11 actual reason that I did not. Your ruling on this
- 12 particular application today has no bearing on whether
- 13 the Cummings Road Landfill closes or does not close.
- 14 Cummings Road Landfill permit is still open and they're
- 15 able to take waste up to a certain amount. So to
- 16 subtract that out, it would not be proper in this case.
- 17 And, second, there is ways to gain offsets
- 18 through CEQA, but that should have been done through
- 19 the CEQA process and if they chose to use that as a
- 20 mechanism to offset emissions, then they could have
- 21 done that as part of their air quality impact analysis,
- 22 but, again, the Cummings Road Landfill is not closing
- 23 at this time.
- 24 MEMBER FRAZEE: But the fact is, there's
- only so much garbage generated in the county, and if it
- 26 doesn't go -- or if it goes through this process and

- 1 doesn't go through the other one, there is, in fact, an
- 2 offset?
- 3 MR. SULLIVAN: I think I'll let City Garbage
- 4 answer that.
- 5 MR. GAMBELIN: I'm sorry. Let me address
- 6 that.
- 7 The reason that there were no miles
- 8 subtracted for the trucks that currently have to go to
- 9 Arcata -- I'm sorry -- that currently go to the Eureka
- 10 transfer station and now will go to Arcata, that may
- 11 well be the case. What we're saying is that we only
- 12 have data for our vehicles, and our vehicles alone will
- 13 generate that additional 906 miles per day, and that
- 14 that alone is another 45 tons per year, which is three
- 15 times, or close to three times, the significance
- 16 threshold that the North Coast Air Quality District
- 17 identified.
- 18 So we recognize that there may be some
- 19 reduction because, say, for instance Arcata garbage now
- 20 does not come down to Eureka, or vice versa. We
- 21 recognize that. There's no quantitative data to
- 22 support that conclusion, and we simply looked at our
- vehicles because that's what we're able to generate
- 24 data for. We know --
- 25 MEMBER FRAZEE: But it just seems like in
- 26 fairness that you're you should have deducted out, when

- 1 you're adding the fact that those had the longer haul,
- 2 you should have been deducting out the fact that they
- 3 no longer go the transfer station, your transfer
- 4 station, and then would no longer would those transfer
- 5 trailers go to the Cummings Road Landfill.
- 6 MR. GAMBELIN: We can only model what we
- 7 have quantitative data for, and we have quantitative
- 8 data from our vehicles. If we had quantitative data
- 9 from the applicant, we would have been able to
- 10 incorporate that into screening level model.
- 11 However, I do still state that without
- 12 quantitative data on anybody's behalf, except for ours,
- 13 where there may be some -- there may be some offsetting
- 14 factors for reduction of PM10 because not as many
- 15 trucks will come down into Eureka from Arcata.
- 16 Again, there's no quantitative evidence. We
- 17 have that only quantitative evidence.
- 18 MEMBER FRAZEE: But in fact it exists?
- 19 MR. GAMBELIN: It must be exist because it
- 20 is fact. I mean, there might be a few garbage trucks
- 21 that don't come down from Arcata.
- 22 You still have -- Now what we didn't include
- 23 on the flip side is that Eel River Disposal will now
- 24 have to haul straight past Eureka Garbage transfer
- 25 station all the way up to Arcata. We didn't account
- 26 for that either. So perhaps those offsets from Arcata

- 1 trucks not having to come down to Eureka is more than
- 2 offset by Eel River having to travel the additional
- 3 mileage up to Arcata also.
- 4 Again, no quantitative data -- we modeled
- 5 what we could, what we have as factual data, and that's
- 6 the results as you see on the Board.
- 7 MEMBER FRAZEE: My point exactly.
- 8 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman?
- 9 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Yes, Mr. Jones.
- 10 MEMBER JONES: On that line of questioning,
- 11 I think it kind of goes to the heart of this problem is
- 12 that, you know, you're raising what you consider to be
- 13 a significant impact in the mitigation measures dealing
- 14 with air. One of the issues that I brought up and had
- 15 meetings with Supervisor Dixon and Mayor Benemann and a
- 16 whole room full of people, was the self-haul issue, and
- 17 I think that one of the points is, we kind of came to
- 18 an agreement that their numbers didn't work on a
- 19 self-haul capacity, and they're working on that, and I
- 20 don't have a problem with that. But they, in the
- 21 original document, which people have to use as the
- 22 document, they did an extrapolation that said that a
- 23 yard of garbage weighed 500 pounds, when, in fact, it
- 24 doesn't. And they made their assumptions on capacity
- 25 based on that 500 pounds and stated they needed this
- 26 much capacity, needed 11,000 tons capacity. When you

- 1 do the math, they still don't have enough capacity, but
- 2 it goes to the air quality issues, I think, because if
- 3 there isn't a self-haul option, which there isn't in
- 4 Arcata, they're not determining exactly where all the
- 5 self-haul options are, what does that add to the
- 6 mileage, to the air quality issues where these
- 7 Eel River, or whoever, now need to drive more
- 8 frequently up to Arcata to dispose of that waste over
- 9 and above the transfer station? There is a difference
- 10 there, and I don't know what it is, but I don't think
- 11 it is the opponent that raises the issue because they
- 12 want to get our attention. They want to say, "We think
- 13 there is a significant impact here, " and they present
- 14 evidence that we could all tear apart as to, "You
- 15 didn't count this, and you didn't can count that," but
- 16 it wasn't their job. It wasn't their job to do that.
- 17 It was somebody else's job to do that. Now, whose job
- 18 that was, I think that's the decision we're going to
- 19 make today.
- 20 But I think clearly the questions asking why
- 21 they didn't on their dime do an environmental impact
- 22 report on air quality standards if they got shut down,
- 23 probably they are not the people that would normally do
- 24 that.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay.
- Next.

- 1 MR. LA DUCA: Mr. Chairman, Marcus La Duca,
- 2 again, for City Garbage. Again, if I could just have
- 3 my concluding remarks.
- 4 Again, the evidence before you is of a new
- 5 significant impact in terms of an actual quantitative
- 6 analysis, and I would agree with Board Member Jones,
- 7 normally it's not the responsibility of a member of the
- 8 public to do an entire environmental document on their
- 9 own. In the two weeks now since your -- these
- 10 comments -- these issues first arose in terms of the
- 11 change of project, we did the air quality analysis to
- 12 provide the quantitative data that we had asked for
- 13 from Arcata time and time and time again, and no data
- 14 was provided, no quantitative analysis.
- You now have a response before you that
- 16 still is unsupported opinion. There is no data before
- 17 other than the data that we have submitted, so you
- don't even get to the level of a disagreement among
- 19 experts. There is only data from one side.
- 20 Instead of local agency action as,
- 21 Ms. Delmatier mentioned, this matter has been dumped --
- 22 no pun intended -- in the laps of you, the responsible
- 23 agency. As a responsible agency, you must, under CEQA
- 24 guidelines 15096-F, consider the environmental effects
- of the project as shown in the EIR, or negative
- 26 declaration. That section subsequently references a

- 1 subsequent EIR section of CEQA. As we have shown, one
- 2 of those conditions requiring a subsequent EIR, a new
- 3 significant impact, has been presented to you in terms
- 4 of the data.
- 5 I'd like to reference page 3, Item 2 of your
- 6 proposed addendum, which purports to present evidence
- 7 supporting the finding of no impacts for the changed
- 8 project. The entire paragraph talks of the number of
- 9 truck trips between Arcata and Medford, the number of
- 10 truck trips, but then concludes that the data on the
- 11 number of truck trips supports a finding of no
- 12 significant traffic or air quality impacts. Those were
- 13 the and air quality.
- 14 MEMBER EATON: Could you just point it out
- 15 so that we're following? We've got a lot of papers ,
- 16 so I just wanted to kind of --
- 17 MR. LA DUCA: Page 3 of the actual addendum
- 18 document itself, and it has a number "2" with a
- 19 heading, "Evidence for Conclusion Regarding No Impacts
- 20 of Transport of Waste to Medford, Oregon landfill."
- 21 MEMBER EATON: Okay.
- MR. LA DUCA: This paragraph is nearly
- 23 identical to the document that was presented by the
- 24 City of Arcata to you approximately a week ago, except
- 25 the words "and air quality" have been thrown in.
- 26 There's a requirement under CEQA that present evidence,

- 1 again, a finding of no significant impacts must have
- 2 substantial impacts that support that finding.
- 3 As we have shown through SCS Engineers
- 4 analysis, the only quantitative analysis, the only
- 5 evidence you have, not just substantial evidence, the
- 6 only evidence you have is of a significant impact
- 7 requiring you to reject the addendum. This addendum
- 8 has been thrown to this Board for your action.
- 9 Air quality has been indicated time and time
- 10 again by this Board and your staff as an important
- 11 issue, and your consideration of permits that come
- 12 before you as recently as illustrated as your staff's
- 13 letter to the City of Sacramento in August on the BLT
- 14 Transfer Station in the city of Sacramento, which,
- 15 again, had an EIR, an air quality analysis, and further
- 16 comment letters from your staff asking that the
- 17 quantitative analysis there, the detailed, 25-page
- 18 quantitative analysis needed more analysis to be
- 19 adequate.
- 20 The CEQA process here has been turned upside
- 21 down. You simply have inadequacy piled upon
- 22 inadequacy. We have provided detailed comments. We
- 23 provided those to you at your August 26th meeting, a
- 24 summary of those last week, on a dozen subject areas
- 25 where we believe the CEQA analysis here is inadequate,
- 26 and we'll repeat those again today. You have a lot of

- 1 speakers. We summarized those in detail for you.
- 2 There are also a whole host of similarities
- 3 between the permanent transfer station site and the
- 4 site before you today. We've also outlined those, at
- 5 least eight areas, that they're basically identical
- 6 sites. So it's interesting that they note that there's
- 7 going to be an EIR by the JPA as lead agency, when the
- 8 JPA'S the applicant on a site that's basically, for all
- 9 intents and purposes, identical for doing a different
- 10 document. In this case, a egative declaration
- 11 supported by an unsupported addendum.
- 12 Since the ball's been thrown into your
- 13 court, you have no choice but to decide. We ask that
- 14 based on the evidence before you, not on my opinion,
- 15 not speakers who give unsubstantiated opinion, but the
- 16 evidence before you, that you reject the addendum and
- 17 instruct the city to do the CEQA review process the way
- 18 it should have been done with an EIR, as the JPA, in
- 19 fact, has proposed to do for the permanent site. An
- 20 EIR must be prepared here and prepared at the level of
- 21 government where it should have been done in the first
- 22 place, by the local agency, following the requirements
- 23 of CEQA.
- We ask you to not set a precedent here, not
- 25 come forward and to say that with some applications a
- 26 wink and a nod, rushing something through at the very

- 1 end, when the deadlines and time lines are known well
- 2 in advance, that those, in fact, don't need adequate
- 3 CEQA review or complete CEQA review, but in some cases
- 4 some people get off with far less. We ask that
- 5 everyone be treated the same in terms of compliance
- 6 with State requirements.
- 7 With that I'd like to introduce
- 8 Mr. Gambelin.
- 9 MR. GAMBELIN: Once again, Donald Gambelin
- 10 from Norcal Waste Systems.
- 11 I do find it ironic that your staff and
- 12 LEA's and other private participants are undergoing a
- 13 three-day intensive CEQA training including today and,
- 14 in fact, yesterday there were some air quality issues
- 15 brought up, and one of the attorneys, I believe, from
- 16 Remme Moose Law Firm made statements that there was a
- 17 specific case that provided some clarification, and
- 18 that was the Los Angeles Unified School District versus
- 19 the City of L.A., and a court finding that a neg-dec
- 20 could not be used because of potential significant
- 21 impacts, and that there were no mitigations presented
- 22 in that documentation in the neg-dec for air quality.
- 23 So it's ironic that on one hand your staff is being
- 24 told something in training, yet they're bringing
- 25 forward something to you in the document that asks for
- 26 your approval.

- 1 I also find it ironic that the applicant,
- 2 the JPA, in a response to the Notice of Preparation on
- 3 the permanent site recognized that -- and this is
- 4 addressing air quality -- they made a statement -- this
- 5 is the City of Eureka, who is a member of the applicant
- 6 and the JPA -- "We do not believe" -- and this is
- 7 speaking to air quality -- "We do not believe that a
- 8 conclusion is appropriate without quantitative
- 9 evidence." We've presented that quantitative evidence
- 10 to you. We wonder why they haven't.
- 11 As I did at the -- and I apologize for the
- 12 size of that -- as I did at the August 26th meeting, I
- 13 wanted -- I spoke on state minimum standards and
- 14 compliance, and I wanted to touch on those again since
- 15 you do have before you your second resolution as to
- 16 whether or not this permit is consistent with state
- 17 minimum standards, and I had a chance to take a look at
- 18 the latest greatest version of the RSI just yesterday
- 19 where staff made that available to me, and I can only
- 20 conclude that Board staff, because of being pressed for
- 21 time in this, didn't have adequate time to review,
- 22 because in my experience with them they are very
- 23 thorough in their evaluation, and they would have
- 24 caught a lot of the inconsistencies that I did.
- The problem with inconsistencies in an RSI
- 26 is, you can't make the finding that it's a complete and

- 1 correct document, which is required under state minimum
- 2 standards as part of the permit application. They are
- 3 in size internally inconsistent and there are
- 4 statements in that RSI that lead us to believe that
- 5 it's inconsistent with the CEQA documentation,
- 6 including the addendum that you're asked to adopt.
- 7 Let me give a couple of examples. On page
- 8 40 it talks about utilizing traffic flows through the
- 9 existing building as a mitigation for noise. I don't
- 10 believe that that building can accommodate a transfer
- 11 truck driving through to deposit its waste, yet that
- 12 same document does recognize that self-haul waste that
- 13 will go to other transfer stations, including City
- 14 Garbage Company's transfer station will then after its
- 15 receipt at those outlying stations will then come to
- 16 this JPA transfer station. We took a look at that, and
- 17 we, in fact, modeled it in our air quality modeling,
- 18 but we will take that waste from our transfer station,
- 19 and we will take it and transfer vehicles. That
- 20 building cannot accomodate our transfer vehicles in a
- 21 drive through, which is part of their noise control
- 22 measures.
- They also make a statement this is part of
- 24 their odor control. It's a mitigation measure. It's
- one that they have in the RSI as a way of controlling
- odors. They state on page 41, "Waste will be

- 1 completely removed from the tipping floor by the close
- 2 of each operating day." Previously on page 20 they
- 3 state, "Should waste be required to remain at the
- 4 transfer station overnight, it will be stored in as
- 5 small an area as possible in the loading area." That's
- 6 inconsistent.
- 7 Controls against potential public health
- 8 hazards. "Waste will be removed from the transfer
- 9 station no later than the close of business each
- 10 operating day, and waste will be loaded into sealed
- 11 transfer containers, and the containers will be removed
- 12 from the site immediately after loading." Previous to
- 13 that on page 33, "Such sealed containers will be
- 14 transferred from the transfer station within 48 hours."
- Which is it? Is it immediate removal, or is
- 16 it 48 hours? It's inconsistent. It is not in
- 17 compliance with state minimum standards because of its
- 18 inconsistency.
- 19 I also want to point to the addendum. The
- 20 addendum says that you will use trip trucks currently
- 21 hauling waste -- or not hauling returning empty to the
- 22 Medford area, and the addendum itself says, "Typically
- 23 they travel back to Medford empty, " and "Typically
- 24 there's 20 to 25 available on a daily basis."
- Now I read that, and I say sometimes there
- 26 may not be. What if there's not? If there's not, how

- 1 do you remove your waste from the floor every day? How
- 2 do you immediately remove it from the site and transfer
- 3 it to the Medford, Oregon landfill? Again,
- 4 inconsistencies.
- Now, maybe they'll use different trucks.
- 6 However, in the August 26th meeting, staff specifically
- 7 clarified -- after we asked for clarification -- that
- 8 the project could only encompass existing truck
- 9 traffic -- could only encompass existing truck traffic,
- 10 and your addendum supports that. So it's only to
- 11 Medford. It's only in existing trucks. What happens
- 12 when those trucks aren't available? I guess they
- 13 respond in the RSI as they're supposed to, and it says
- 14 that they can rent some additional ones and make a
- 15 statement that you can call for extra vehicles. Again,
- 16 I don't believe that's allowed, as required by your
- 17 staff.
- 18 Also -- and this one's curious to me -- if
- 19 failure -- and they're talking about systemwide failure
- 20 or breakdown of transfer station, road closures, as
- 21 somebody at the local level brought out, because that
- 22 does happen. Their haul route does close down
- 23 periodically in the wintertime. Their response is that
- 24 "If failure exceeds station storage capacity" -- this
- 25 is on page 28 of the RSI -- "waste can be diverted to
- 26 the back-up landfill until prepares are completed."

- Now, my understanding is there is no back-up
- 2 landfill as part of this project, and staff
- 3 specifically instructed the applicant that no back-up
- 4 landfill was available. Brings up kind of a related
- 5 point from the environmental documentation, and I
- 6 refer, again, to the NOP prepared by the JPA, the same
- 7 applicant before you today. When asked on one of the
- 8 checklist items, initial study disposal -- or, I'm
- 9 sorry, the initial study, there's a question on solid
- 10 waste disposal, "Is there any impact?" Their
- 11 statement, "It's a potentially significant impact. The
- 12 reason, the solid waste disposal services for county
- 13 residents would change dramatically."
- 14 I then look at the checklist also prepared
- 15 by the JPA for the temporary transfer station. That
- 16 same question, solid waste disposal. Checkmark in the
- 17 box, "No Impact."
- 18 Now, are we to conclude, or are they asking
- 19 us to conclude that by providing this temporary
- 20 transfer station and the requirement to self-haul all
- 21 over the place, which is the way I read it, that that's
- 22 not a dramatic change for the solid waste disposal
- 23 services for the county's residents, but the permanent
- 24 site will be? It seems inconsistent to me.
- 25 Actually with the inconsistent and
- 26 incomplete RSI, obviously that's not in compliance with

- 1 state minimum standards.
- When it comes to enforcement of the solid
- 3 waste facility permit, what do you enforce? Do you
- 4 enforce removal of waste from the floor every day as an
- 5 odor control measure and a health hazard measure, or do
- 6 you allow it to sit on site or 48 hours? If they just
- 7 push it into a small pile, as they seem to say that
- 8 they might need to do on a periodic basis, does that
- 9 mean that they might be generating odors? Because part
- 10 of their odor control measure is to remove it every
- 11 day.
- 12 Again, inconsistencies. With these
- 13 inconsistencies, the finding cannot be made that you're
- 14 in compliance with state minimum standards. It is not
- 15 a complete and correct information package. It is not
- 16 a complete and correct RSI.
- 17 Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Ms. Mudge, I'd like to
- 19 let them get through and then give you a chance to
- 20 rebut whatever it is you wish.
- 21 MS. MUDGE: May I apologize. I need to
- 22 leave to go to a hearing before a BCDC in Oakland, and
- 23 I apologize, but if you would let me step in out of
- 24 turn, I'd very much appreciate that.
- I would like to rebut this last-minute
- 26 effort to raise a new alleged CEQA issue based on air

- 1 quality impacts. I'd like to point out something that
- 2 I know your satisfy is well aware of, and that is, the
- 3 lead agency for this project for CEQA purposes is the
- 4 City of Arcata, and in conjunction with the North Coast
- 5 Air Quality Management District, they determined that
- 6 an EIR was not necessary for this project.
- 7 Now, the North Coast Air Quality Management
- 8 District commented on the CEQA process before the city
- 9 of Arcata, and they have summarized for you in their
- 10 letter to you dated September 17th their conclusions
- 11 with respect to this project's impacts on air quality.
- 12 I quote, "The district believes that the project is not
- 13 significant in its potential effects to air quality,
- 14 both on an individual basis, and when considered in its
- 15 cumulative context. It will not cause or significantly
- 16 contribute to the excedence of any state or federal air
- 17 quality standard. It will not interfere with the
- 18 district's ability to implement its particulate
- 19 attainment plan. It will not, we believe, present even
- 20 the potential" --
- 21 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Ms. Nudge --
- 22 THE WITNESS: -- "for significant effects."
- 23 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: I've got to stop you.
- 24 She's out of paper.
- MS. MUDGE: The North Coast Air Quality
- 26 Management District is the agency that is -- to which

- 1 the responsibility for the protection of air quality in
- 2 that region is delegated, and they have reached these
- 3 conclusions. As the responsible agency, you are bound
- 4 to follow the determination of the lead agency that no
- 5 EIR is necessary for this project except under very
- 6 limited circumstances that are not present here.
- 7 Norcal Waste has come in and said to you
- 8 that there are -- that there is evidence of an air
- 9 quality impact where the North Coast Air Quality
- 10 Management District has said there is none. They have
- 11 said that we have not provided data to rebut their
- 12 data. No CEQA analysis beyond what is already occurred
- 13 has been required by the agency to which these issues
- 14 are delegated, and in addition, the North Coast Air
- 15 Quality Management District has shown you that Norcal's
- 16 supposed data that they are bringing before you is
- 17 flawed, and they have shown that to you in a number of
- 18 instances. The reliance on the South Coast Air Quality
- 19 Management District methodology is inappropriate for
- 20 the north coast because of the differences in
- 21 climatology. They have inappropriately substituted
- 22 weight for bulk in their analysis of air quality
- 23 particulate generation, and they have used a
- 24 methodology that is appropriate for an analysis of
- 25 stationary sources, not mobile sources, such as truck
- 26 traffic.

- 1 So the data that they have presented to you
- 2 is not substantial, credible evidence, and it does
- 3 not -- this last-minute assault on the lead agency's
- 4 determination, which was supported by the Air Quality
- 5 Management District must be rejected.
- 6 Thank you.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Thank you.
- 8 MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman, I have some
- 9 questions for -- I've got a few questions for you.
- Tell me exactly, as the lead agency, what
- 11 are our limited areas that we can object to, or our
- 12 concerns can come up? Because you've stated we don't
- 13 have a right, but yet we're the ones that have to do
- 14 the addendum, so I'd really like to hear exactly what
- 15 our rights are.
- MS. MUDGE: The determination of whether to
- 17 prepare an environmental impact report in the first
- 18 instance is delegated to the lead agency.
- 19 MEMBER JONES: Okay. Now --
- 20 MS. MUDGE: The responsible agency has the
- 21 ability to take over as the lead agency if within 30
- 22 days it makes the determination that the environmental
- 23 documents that were prepared by the lead agency are
- 24 insufficient.
- I do not believe your staff has reached that
- 26 conclusion, nor is it making a recommendation to you on

- 1 that basis, and Norcal's testimony regarding air
- 2 quality is not a sufficient basis on which to take over
- 3 as lead agency.
- 4 MEMBER JONES: When the air quality
- 5 district, when the first document was circulated --
- 6 now, we've had this discussion. You were in the room
- 7 with Supervisor Dixon and the mayor and the manager.
- 8 When this document got circulated, this is the document
- 9 that the air district originally commented on, that
- 10 there would not be a significant air impact; correct?
- MS. MUDGE: Correct.
- 12 MEMBER JONES: And the option, the main
- 13 thrust of disposal of the materials was by train.
- 14 Okay. Now, I don't think --
- MS. MUDGE: I don't think that's correct,
- 16 sir.
- 17 MEMBER JONES: I'm not sure that a train's
- 18 pollution increases that much when it adds some other
- 19 cars to it of solid waste, as opposed to an empty chip
- 20 van, going empty up the hills in Humboldt County, now
- 21 carrying, according to your document, 25 tons of waste.
- 22 MS. MUDGE: Sir, I have to disagree with you
- 23 that the negative declaration did not take into account
- 24 truck traffic. It absolutely did take into account the
- 25 air quality impact --
- 26 MEMBER JONES: We didn't take it out.

- 1 MS. MUDGE: -- from truck haul, as did the
- 2 addendum.
- 3 MEMBER JONES: But we didn't -- we didn't --
- 4 we're the ones that took out the rail haul, so it was
- 5 the alternative mode. It wasn't the primary mode.
- 6 MS. MUDGE: Sir, I don't think it follows
- 7 that truck traffic was not addressed.
- 8 MEMBER JONES: Truck traffic was addressed
- 9 to Medford, okay, as an alternative if trains weren't
- 10 used; is that correct?
- MS. MUDGE: And that --
- 12 MEMBER JONES: That's what your document
- 13 says.
- 14 MS. MUDGE: And that has now been determined
- 15 to be the preferred alternative and the scope of the
- 16 project.
- 17 MEMBER JONES: Okay. And my question is
- 18 that the issue has been brought to us about air quality
- 19 issues, that in the public hearing, okay -- in the
- 20 hearing where this document was circulated and the
- 21 local air district commented that there wouldn't be a
- 22 significant impact, these issues didn't come up because
- 23 it wasn't the prime mode of transportation. Now that
- 24 it's the prime mode of transportation and the issue
- 25 comes up, we got a letter from the Air Quality District
- 26 saying, "We dismiss all of those parameters."

- 1 MS. MUDGE: You get a letter from the Air
- Quality District saying, "We have reviewed the impacts
- 3 due to truck traffic, and we find them to be
- 4 insignificant based on their methodologies."
- 5 MEMBER JONES: Okay. Based on your RSI?
- 6 MS. MUDGE: Based on their review of our
- 7 project.
- 8 MEMBER JONES: That's where I'm confused
- 9 because your RSI says there could be -- you know, we
- 10 still don't know where all the self-haul garbage is
- 11 going to. So you still don't know the amount of trucks
- 12 that are going to be driving up to Oregon, and I'm
- 13 wondering what they make the analysis based on, the 25
- 14 loads a day, or the maybe 10 or 12 loads a day?
- MS. MUDGE: They make the analysis based on
- 16 the project as it exists before you today.
- 17 Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Mr. Frazee?
- MEMBER FRAZEE: Yes.
- I just wanted to make a point on the
- 21 question of what the original project was, and the
- 22 indication that it was a rail haul project. And
- 23 reading from the original RSI, "In the initial phases
- 24 of the project, municipal solid waste will be accepted
- 25 and loaded by contractor into truck transfer trailers
- 26 for shipment to Dry Creek Landfill. Then when road

- 1 rail or transport containers are available" -- and it
- 2 doesn't say when that is, that could be never. And so
- 3 the question of whether or not this project description
- 4 addresses trucks transport initially, I think, is very
- 5 clear. That was the primary and initial designation
- 6 was truck and not rail.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Can we go on
- 8 with Norcal's presentation?
- 9 Mr. Sweetser.
- 10 MR. SWEETSER: Back on track.
- 11 Larry Sweetser, Director of Regulatory Affairs from
- 12 Norcal Waste Systems.
- 13 I have a simple point here to address, and
- 14 that is, last time on August 26th we clarified that the
- 15 applicant was using 5001 AB section for performance,
- 16 since they claimed that they were doing less than
- 17 5 percent diversion that will occur at this facility.
- 18 As we verified in the testimony that they're not
- 19 allowed to do any significant diversion at this
- 20 facility.
- 21 I wanted to walk the Board through the
- 22 sections again. I know you know them, but let me get
- 23 through this.
- Here (indicating) we have in what was used,
- 25 and I'll skip through that, that when you have a
- 26 nondisposal facility element available out there, as we

- 1 all knew, it has to include solid waste facilities and
- 2 solid waste expansions. All those facilities that
- 3 cover at least 5 percent have to be in the NDFE.
- 4 There's also the provision -- and that NDFE,
- 5 where there's more than 5 percent have to be approved
- 6 by the board. Now, if you have a transfer station with
- 7 less than 5 percent, then it shall be included in the
- 8 element. It has to be in the element. It does not
- 9 need Board approval. And at this point, all the
- 10 documents we've looked at with the NDFE, it is not
- 11 listed at all. So we question the adequacy of that
- 12 document and what the implications are for the
- 13 Integrated Waste Management plan.
- 14 When we follow that out to the performance
- 15 finding sections of 5001 AB, this is after the gap, and
- 16 assuming if the facility did do more than 5 percent
- 17 diversion, it would have had to have been described in
- 18 the facility, go through the process, get Board
- 19 approval. So if they get close to 5 percent, or they
- 20 go over 5 percent, this permit would be invalid on the
- 21 performance finding. It would not meet the standards
- 22 for that, but the decision was that they claimed they
- 23 were doing less than 5 percent, so they would fall
- 24 under the B section, which says they're not required to
- 25 comply with that section.
- Those are all in there, but we've seen no

- 1 demonstration. We looked at all the documents. We
- 2 can't find anything that traces them to the fact that
- 3 they're doing less than 5 percent diversion. We would
- 4 like to have that questioned. The only references we
- 5 find in the solid waste facility permit -- there's
- 6 references in RSI that talks about storage areas for
- 7 diverted waste. So they will do some diversion out
- 8 there.
- 9 Further down, there's going to be a
- 10 recycling drop-off center there. There's going to be
- 11 collecting tires there. They're going to be taking out
- 12 refrigerators there. We have no idea whether that's
- 13 going to be close to 5 percent. Typically that would
- 14 have been a term of condition in the permit, or
- 15 somewhere in the process, that they're doing less than
- 16 5 percent diversion. There's no requirement in here,
- other than a statement at one of the other meetings.
- 18 There's nothing written out there that they weren't
- 19 doing less than 5 percent diversion. What would happen
- 20 at this facility if they do more than 5 percent
- 21 diversion in violation of the conformance standard for
- 22 this permit?
- 23 I feel it's incumbent to get on the record
- 24 from the applicant that they will not do diversion at
- 25 this facility, that they're required not to do that,
- 26 that is the condition on which this permit would go

- 1 forward. If it doesn't -- if they can't do that, then
- 2 they would be inconsistent with the conformance
- 3 finding.
- 4 You'll find it hard -- right at this point
- 5 they're asking you to trust them. We find it hard to
- 6 do so. They should have known better. They have done
- 7 better. The applicant has experience in these projects
- 8 before. So they have done better than this
- 9 demonstration. They chose not to.
- 10 So that's my presentation.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Any questions of
- 12 Mr. Sweetser?
- Thank you.
- MR. SWEETSER: Thank you.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Ms. Delmatier.
- MS. DELMATIER: Mr. Chairman, members of the
- 17 Board, obviously we respectively disagree with the JPA
- 18 CEQA term.
- 19 If substantial evidence is presented that
- 20 indicates that there is in fact a creation of the new
- 21 significant impact, then CEQA statute and CEQA
- 22 regulation requires that a new negative declaration or
- 23 EIR be developed, and that's the issue before you
- 24 today. That's your charge. They dumped this -- to
- 25 reiterate Mr. La Duca's comment -- they dumped this in
- 26 your lap. They're asking you to do the little dirty

- 1 work for them. They could have addressed this issue
- 2 locally. They choose not to.
- 3 In answer to Mr. Frazee's question about the
- 4 primary mode of traffic, I'm reading from the Negative
- 5 Declaration Project Description, page D-1. "The
- 6 facility will provide transfer and transport of
- 7 municipal solid waste by rail to the Potrero Hills
- 8 Landfill in Solano county as its primary destination."
- 9 That is lifted directly from the negative declaration,
- 10 "as its primary destination," rail. That was the
- 11 document that the city of Arcata considered. That was
- 12 the document that the North Coast Air Quality
- 13 Management District considered when it made its finding
- 14 that there are no significant impacts.
- We have provided you with the only analysis,
- 16 with the only data that has been done on this project
- 17 clearly indicating that there is, in fact, a potential
- 18 significant impact.
- 19 The citizens of Arcata deserve the right to
- 20 have their voice heard through the CEQA process. They
- 21 deserve the right to address their issues before the
- 22 city council of Arcata prior to this project being
- 23 approved. If you wait until the city council after the
- 24 fact decides to hear this thing and the project's
- 25 already approved by you, the Board, you've rendered the
- 26 whole CEQA process meaningless. It's a done deal.

- 1 It's over with. Great, you have a hearing, but you got
- 2 a permit, and you got a project that did not allow the
- 3 citizens of Arcata to address their concerns before the
- 4 city council because, in fact, there is a significant
- 5 impact. They have that right. You ought to allow them
- 6 to go forward with that right, and we take great
- 7 exception that the city council has not, in fact,
- 8 considered the significant impacts.
- 9 Mr. Sullivan used the applicant's own
- 10 numbers. We didn't dream up these numbers. We lifted
- 11 them from their application. These are not minor
- 12 technical clarifications, and if their not minor
- 13 technical clarifications, then you can't adopt this
- 14 addendum. That's the only way you can adopt this
- 15 addendum today is if you make a determination that
- 16 there are no new significant impacts, and that there
- 17 are, in fact, minor, technical clarifications. If you
- 18 look at the numbers, if you look at the facts, then you
- 19 must come to the conclusion that yeah, you know the
- 20 citizens of Arcata in a nonattaintment area have a
- 21 right to be concerned about the serious potential
- 22 degradation of their air quality in the north coast
- 23 region.
- What we've had to date is a shell game. You
- 25 pick it up; we've got a rail haul project. We move it
- 26 around. We pick up the next one; we got a truck haul

- 1 project. We pick up the next one, significant impact,
- 2 the air quality of the north coast. Oh, well, let's
- 3 hide that ball again. Let's stop the CEQA shell game.
- 4 Tell these folks to come back and do it right. Bring a
- 5 proper document before the Board, and we have no
- 6 objection to the project. The project gets approved,
- 7 but don't establish this dangerous precedent, this
- 8 dangerous path that we're walking down today if you
- 9 don't disapprove this addendum that, hey, let's do it
- 10 with a wink and a nod, ignore the facts and establish
- 11 that, hey, if you don't do it right, we'll just put our
- 12 blinders on. We'll participate with your shell game
- 13 and we'll continue on, and, quite frankly, the citizens
- 14 of Arcata have every right to follow through the
- 15 appropriate venues that are available to you.
- We urge your no vote. Please do the right
- 17 thing.
- 18 I'll be happy to answer any questions.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Questions?
- Okay. Thank you. Now we'll move to
- 21 Aaron Isherwood and Laurel Impett.
- MR. ISHERWOOD: Mr. Chairman, I would ask
- 23 that the citizens of Arcata whom I represent be
- 24 permitted to speak first.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Sure. I'd be happy
- 26 to.

- 1 Patti Stammer.
- 2 MS. STAMMER: It seems like only last week I
- 3 was here.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: I think you're right.
- 5 MS. STAMMER: My name is Patti Stammer, and
- 6 I had a whole lot of things that I was going to talk
- 7 about until I got here.
- Frankly, I don't trust anybody anymore.
- 9 That's the one thing I've heard here that makes me
- 10 really concerned, and I personally am happy that this
- 11 has come to you, because you are the only agency Board
- 12 official representatives that I felt listened to the
- 13 citizens of Arcata throughout this whole entire
- 14 process. I feel that we have been boxed in between
- 15 every acronym in the world, the AEDC, the ECDC, Arcata
- 16 City Council, City Garbage, and I've read everything.
- 17 I'm so sick of reading about this that I can't believe
- 18 I'm wasting my life and my valuable days reading this.
- 19 And what I found is that every single document I have
- 20 come across is flawed, and I'm not an attorney. I'm
- 21 not an air quality expert. I'm not a hydrologist. I'm
- 22 not a CEQA expert. I'm a mom who owns a very
- 23 environmentally benign business with my daughter in
- 24 Arcata. I'm also a homeowner in Eureka, so I kind of
- 25 cover the county. I've lived there for 30 years. I
- 26 moved back to Arcata from Los Altos, where I grew up in

- 1 the Bay Area, because I did not want to raise my
- 2 daughter in a city environment where citizens had no
- 3 impact, where the air quality, the water quality,
- 4 everything else was at issue, and since I've been here
- 5 this morning, I have heard potentially significant
- 6 environmental effects, adequate mitigation, minimum
- 7 standards. Well, I hate that. I don't want potential
- 8 adequate minimum. I want absolute assurance that my
- 9 community is not going to be destroyed because two
- 10 people with very different vested interests are duking
- 11 it out in the middle of my town, and I am relying on
- 12 you as -- I don't know what. I mean, I'm hoping that
- 13 the buck will stop here, and you won't let this happen.
- I worked for a brief time for an
- 15 environmental planner, so I know what a few words mean,
- 16 but I certainly am not an expert. Our group got
- 17 together and we had so many questions about the report
- 18 that was initially in Arcata, the staff report, that we
- 19 didn't want to be a group of nimbies saying, "Oh, no,
- 20 nobody wants to deal with trash." We have never had a
- 21 problem with the waste transfer station, and we've
- 22 stated that right from the beginning from the very
- 23 first time I heard about it.
- 24 Arcata's a community that it's entirely
- 25 possible for them to develop a plan to deal with waste
- that could become an ecological, environmental and in

- 1 every other way a model -- a world-class model. We've
- 2 done it with our sewage treatment plant by baling out
- 3 of a joint powers authority that wanted to railroad us
- 4 into a plan that was not good for our town, and we
- 5 developed the Arcata marsh Waste Treatment Center, and
- 6 I have not seen this (indicating) photograph, but I
- 7 hope that you will look at it closely, because the area
- 8 that's directly across from 50 feet of asphalt is our
- 9 wetlands marsh. It's a habitat where everybody in
- 10 Arcata goes to walk, to relax, to renew ourselves, and
- 11 I don't know about the studies. I don't know -- this
- 12 study says this. This study says this. It's always
- 13 been my impression that CEQA was designed to protect
- 14 citizens against exactly this kind of thing, and if
- 15 there is a debate that somebody says, "Oh, yes, this
- 16 will hurt you, " and somebody says it won't, it's CEQA
- 17 that makes the regulations that decide, and that's all
- 18 we've asked for as citizens right from the beginning
- 19 from every single meeting we've ever been to is, "We
- 20 don't object to this. Please do an environmental
- 21 impact report which includes looking at alternative
- 22 sites." This is the only site, regardless of what it
- 23 says in this addendum that has ever been presented for
- 24 public review that any of us ever ever seen. It was
- 25 the only site that was presented to the planning
- 26 commission to look at.

- 1 We just want absolute assurance that our
- 2 interests are being looked after. This is my
- 3 community, my neighborhood. This is where my daughter
- 4 will live and raise my grandchildren, and I care about
- 5 it. Not from -- I have no vested interest in this.
- 6 I'm not going to make money in garbage, although
- 7 apparently if I wanted to put a big trash collection
- 8 bin at my storage units, I guess it wouldn't be too
- 9 hard to get a permit in Arcata, even though it's right
- 10 next to a big creek that runs right through the middle
- 11 of my town. Apparently, it's not concerned.
- 12 I feel there's significant impacts because I
- 13 live in this neighborhood. I once won a photo contest
- 14 called "Water in Humboldt County," and the area I
- 15 photographed was this area because it floods. Every
- 16 winter it floods. I don't care what the hydrologists
- 17 and the runoff people will say. I live there. I walk
- 18 there. I go there every day. It's under water, and in
- 19 a 30-year event like we had two years ago, the water
- 20 from there drains to my house. My house has a moat
- 21 around it. I'm not relying on experts. I put on my
- 22 boots to go out and get my mail. That area floods, and
- 23 if you're going to potentially site something there
- 24 that does have an environmental impact, I think
- 25 somebody should come up and look at it about February,
- 26 and the people who work there every day -- I was in a

- 1 neighborhood pub on Saturday night, and a guy sitting
- 2 next to me works out at this site, and he said, "Don't
- 3 they know that this water just goes right into the
- 4 bay?"
- 5 And I said, "Well, they say it doesn't."
- And he said, "Well, I work there. I'm
- 7 telling you it does."
- I believe him. I don't believe experts who
- 9 said the place was paved with asphalt. It's not paved.
- 10 You walk around out there and, look, there's no
- 11 pavement there. You watch the water. It runs into
- 12 that (indicating) creek right there on that
- 13 (indicating) may. It drains out. You can't walk there
- 14 without boots.
- I also know there's a very large flock of
- 16 ravens that live in our neighborhood, which I
- 17 personally happen to enjoy. I don't want them to call
- 18 their friends and say, "Oh, free lunch." I don't want
- 19 more gulls coming, and unless they've been hired from,
- 20 you know, Alfred Hitchcock to be trained to not go to
- 21 this therefore station, I think stringing up a few
- 22 little fishing lines and putting it inside an enclosure
- 23 is not adequate mitigation.
- 24 Apparently no one's addressed even vectors.
- 25 They talk about rats. Well, for heaven's sakes, I live
- 26 two blocks from a recycling center. Rats as big as my

- 1 cats lope across my street. They are not trained to
- 2 stay within 150 feet of their food source, and, you
- 3 know, from my point of view, living in a house where
- 4 all the people who live there, we have collectively
- 5 nine cats. That is the only mitigation that I've seen
- 6 in any of this that makes any sense. We have no bird
- 7 problem. We have no rats. So I don't see cats
- 8 mentioned in here anyplace as mitigation.
- 9 I just find everything about this to be
- 10 slapdash, flawed, not in the best interest of Arcata.
- 11 I asked at a town meeting -- I asked my city council
- 12 members, "Why is this good for Arcata? Why are you
- 13 considering this? Are you -- are we going to get any
- 14 kickback from the tipping fees into the public coffers
- 15 so we can improve our community? Do we get any tax
- 16 money? Does any money flow into Arcata from this
- 17 project that would make this beneficial on a level
- 18 that, you know, trickles down, so to speak?" Not one
- 19 answer. Nobody had anything to say about it.
- 20 When I asked, "Well, what's going to happen
- 21 at the end of this?" Our concern has always been, and
- 22 it's also in this addendum. I looked at the addendum,
- 23 and it says that, "The City of Arcata will work with
- 24 Arcata Garbage Company to site a transfer station."
- 25 Well, it doesn't take a brain surgeon to figure out
- 26 where that's going to be since they're going to leave

- 1 the concrete pad.
- 2 So I find that the notion that this has even
- 3 been presented to the citizenry or even considered as
- 4 temporary to be just ludicrous. It is not temporary.
- 5 It has to be considered as permanent, and I think the
- 6 whole project should be considered as a whole. This
- 7 isn't a temporary part of it. This is a part of the
- 8 project, and all we've ever asked for is a fair
- 9 impartial, unbiased, environmental impact report, and
- 10 I'm hoping that you will grant that to us.
- 11 And I say, again, the citizens of Arcata are
- 12 not opposed to the transfer station. We are opposed to
- 13 the process and to the flawed reasoning on all sides.
- 14 From everything I've heard here, it just doesn't add
- 15 up.
- So does anybody have any questions they'd
- 17 like to ask me since I -- apparently I'm the only one
- 18 who lives there and knows what happens there? Our city
- 19 doesn't seem the to know.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: I think we're fine.
- 21 Thank you.
- MS. STAMMER: Thank you very much, and,
- 23 again, I thank you for hearing us. It's very
- 24 refreshing since it is not happening where we live.
- 25 And I really urge you to look closely at that map and
- 26 look for yourselves where our marsh is. It's a

- 1 resource that needs protecting, and you're our last
- 2 hope to do it. Please do it.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Thank you.
- 4 Next we'll have Dana Quillman.
- 5 MS. QUILLMAN: Hi there. My name's
- 6 Dana Quillman. I'm a resident of Arcata. I was here
- 7 last week speaking and I really appreciate the
- 8 opportunity to come back and address you all again.
- 9 I live very close to the site. I want to
- 10 say that I don't know what I think about transfer sites
- 11 for Arcata or Humboldt County. I feel that what I've
- 12 heard is that the county has been dissatisfied with
- 13 their contract for a long time -- their current
- 14 contract. Somebody said they've been working on this
- 15 for nine years. I don't understand why the best they
- 16 can do is wait till North Coast Hardwoods goes bankrupt
- 17 this April and have to rush into a project like this,
- 18 fast-tracking the whole thing.
- I look at things in life, maybe something's
- 20 meant to be, or maybe it's not meant to be. I guess I
- 21 feel that the way this whole thing is being put forth
- 22 to the people as temporary, when they really can't
- 23 guarantee as being temporary. I don't think they have
- 24 a permanent site in mind. I think it's going to be a
- 25 long time before they have that underway, if it's ever
- 26 going to happen, and to be selling it that way, I feel

- 1 somewhat deceptive, because most people in Arcata want
- 2 to believe their city council and their city staff to
- 3 believe that what they're being told is true, and I
- 4 don't think that it should have even been sold that way
- 5 to begin with.
- 6 So I think I agree with Patti. Arcata's a
- 7 progressive town. I think we can come up with some
- 8 better ways. I've heard that if we take this contract
- 9 and we find some collective way of decreasing our
- 10 garbage in our county that our rates will go up,
- 11 because its based on how much they take out. That
- 12 doesn't seem to be a very progressive thing to be doing
- 13 in this day and time. I think we can find better
- 14 methods and ways to go and not get caught up in
- 15 long-term contracts that are not progressive.
- I also feel that we're a throw away society.
- 17 We need to learn to do that differently. We need to
- 18 set an example. If we have a landfill that has a
- 19 certain capacity that's highly regulated, that they
- 20 have been told has a certain life span, then I think
- 21 that landfill should be used to that life span. We
- 22 shouldn't be throwing it away before its time is up.
- 23 It's too bad that the contract time and that didn't
- 24 happen at the same time, but maybe this will give the
- 25 opportunity for the county to go back to the drawing
- 26 board and come up with a better solution that is not

- 1 causing so much division in our county, making our city
- 2 of Arcata so unhappy. Most of the residents in Arcata
- 3 still don't even know this is happening because it's
- 4 such a fast track. It creates mistrust in our
- 5 community, the whole way that our city manager is the
- 6 chairman of the JPA. Our mayor was allowed to vote on
- 7 this at the city council. I don't understand. Who are
- 8 we supposed to complain to about that? If our city
- 9 manager and our mayor are involved in the very process
- 10 of selecting this site, who are we as citizens supposed
- 11 to say, "Hey, what's going on here?"
- 12 And I know that your agency doesn't want to
- 13 be responsible for having to hear that kind of thing,
- 14 but I don't really understand who else we're supposed
- 15 to go to about that. Obviously they could not make
- 16 objective analyses of this project since everybody who
- 17 works in the city staff, their jobs rely on the mayor
- 18 and the city manager. I mean put two and two together.
- 19 It's just not adding up here.
- I know you wanted expert testimony. I wish
- 21 I could give it. I've talked to experts. I know
- 22 experts in our community, and I know people that I have
- 23 asked to come or fax you information. They don't want
- 24 to get involved because they are involved in other
- 25 projects with the city, through our city planning
- 26 department. They're involved in maybe possibly even

- 1 working with our city on projects. They don't want to
- 2 get in the middle of this. Nobody does, and who would
- 3 want to and threaten their career. We live in a small
- 4 community and everybody knows everybody. You get
- 5 blacklisted that way and that stays with you for a long
- 6 time.
- 7 So I'm real sorry to see that the city has
- 8 not protected it's citizens better in this situation.
- 9 I do feel that the area -- I live near the area. I
- 10 live the equivalent of three houses from Sunol
- 11 Boulevard. There's a stoplight on the street. Every
- 12 time I hear every logging truck go by -- I hear every
- 13 logging truck go by as it is, so now there's going to
- 14 be 100 or so more going one direction than the other.
- 15 They have to the stop at this traffic light. They have
- 16 to start up again. Diesel fumes, brake -- stuff from
- 17 the brake pads coming off. There's all sorts of people
- 18 that live around these industrial areas that this is
- 19 going to be placed in. So whatever's going to go on
- 20 that site now that North Coast Hardwoods will be gone,
- 21 I think, needs to be something worth taking into
- 22 consideration where it is. It's just downwind from our
- 23 whole down. The prevailing winds blow from the south.
- 24 That's when our rain comes. We smell the smokestacks
- 25 coming from Somoa, from the pulp mill. Everybody
- 26 smells that at certain times of the year, and that

- 1 means the whole town will be smelling whatever odors
- 2 this gives off, and I think there's tremendous problems
- 3 with this.
- 4 I really urge you to not approve this and to
- 5 force the county to take a second look. I don't know
- 6 what their problems are with Norcal and City Garbage,
- 7 but I do know that they've been in a relationship for a
- 8 long time, and everybody's adults. There's mediation.
- 9 Everybody knows what the problems are, so they're not
- 10 new problems, where if you let this go through there's
- 11 going to be a whole set of new problems, because there
- 12 wasn't an EIR done, and all sorts of disillusionment
- 13 and disgruntlement from the citizenry because of all
- 14 the unknowns that are going to be occurring from this.
- So I really, really urge you to oppose it,
- 16 and I thank you for your time.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Any questions?
- If not, now we'll hear from Michael Machi.
- MR. MACHI: Michael Machi from Arcata.
- 20 I'm not concerned that much about the
- 21 permanency issues of this facility. I am much more
- 22 concerned about the process, too. The citizens of
- 23 Arcata have got the short end of the deal at every turn
- 24 of this process, and the most significant one that I
- 25 see here, how we've been left out is in your list of
- 26 whereases. It says that the city of Arcata has filed a

- 1 notice of determination with you, and in part of that
- 2 notice of determination, Exhibit B, page 11, it states
- 3 that -- Number 7-C, "The revised mitigation measures
- 4 and the project modifications agreed to by the project
- 5 applicant were considered in a public hearing held on
- 6 the 18th and 19th of August 1998 by the city council at
- 7 which time all interested persons were given the
- 8 opportunity to testify on the revised mitigations and
- 9 project modifications."
- 10 That's absolutely not so. In the speed in
- 11 which this thing has been pushed through, they sort of
- 12 missed that one. We had public comment, and then it
- 13 was shut down on the 19th, and the council proceeded to
- 14 make many, many changes, which are listed in your
- 15 addendum and in your addenda.
- 16 After that it was just passed with a big
- 17 rubber stamp. The whole thing was just sent on
- 18 through. There was never ever another public hearing
- 19 listing of those changes that were made. In fact,
- 20 today is the first time I've ever seen the list that
- 21 has gone through.
- MS. TOBIAS: Excuse me. Could you -- what
- 23 are you reading from?
- MR. MACHI: Notice of Determination, Exhibit
- 25 B, page 11.
- 26 MS. TOBIAS: I don't think we know what

- 1 you're reading from.
- 2 Could you just clarify it for the record,
- 3 Georgianne?
- 4 MS. TURNER: I think it's part of the CEQA
- 5 documentation. I'm going to look right now.
- 6 MS. TOBIAS: Okay.
- 7 MR. MACHI: That's --
- 8 MS. TURNER: It's part of the mitigation
- 9 measures.
- 10 MEMBER JONES: What page?
- 11 MS. TOBIAS: From the negative declaration.
- 12 Okay.
- MS. TURNER: Actually, I'm sorry, that's
- 14 part of the staff report findings of for approval.
- 15 Is that correct?
- MR. MACHI: Yes.
- MS. TOBIAS: So this is the city's document
- 18 you're referring to?
- MS. TURNER: Correct.
- It's almost at the very end of the document.
- 21 If you --
- 22 MS. TOBIAS: The Board's wondering if they
- 23 have this in front of them.
- MS. TURNER: It should --
- MS. TOBIAS: Is it in the RSI?
- 26 MS. TURNER: Yes, and it should be -- if you

- 1 go all the way to the back and page backwards.
- 2 MS. TOBIAS: Oh, I see. It's the very last
- 3 document that's in the RSI.
- 4 MS. TURNER: Exhibit B, page 11.
- 5 MS. TOBIAS: It's down at the bottom.
- 6 Okay. You could proceed. I just wanted to
- 7 be clear on where you were.
- 8 MR. MACHI: Okay.
- 9 So CEQA regulations there state we have to
- 10 have a public hearing on that, and that did not happen.
- 11 It's not on the public record anywhere. It didn't
- 12 happen. It was just approved. No one ever saw a list
- 13 of exactly what they did -- we were never sure what
- 14 they did, because they just proceeded at 11:00 o'clock
- 15 at night to get to the end of this changing of the
- 16 project to make it somewhat palatable, and that alone
- 17 should send it right back to us. It doesn't even
- 18 belong here at this point.
- 19 I'd like to also point out that this project
- 20 was basically flawed from the very start. As Dana had
- 21 said, the site, Somoa Boulevard site that we're talking
- 22 about here, was not even considered at all until, I
- 23 think, May 1st. It was a hardwood company. So that
- 24 leaves only five months to get this whole process
- 25 through and including construction time, and therefore
- 26 it shouldn't have even been started because there was

- 1 not adequate time for any public review with the strong
- 2 possibility that it needed an EIR.
- 3 Again, as far as the CEQA documents in the
- 4 initial study, they were prepared by the operator of
- 5 the site, a subsidiary of ECDC, Waste Solutions Group,
- 6 also part of the contractors who are operating the site
- 7 and supplying transportation. They provide the
- 8 prepared -- the initial study, and I consider that a
- 9 very biased source of information. It was a very
- 10 incomplete document. It had very many inaccuracies,
- 11 and some of them have been addressed, but there are
- 12 many more that have not even been considered at all
- 13 until today, including all the air quality questions
- 14 that were brought up. That was not even considered on
- 15 the original document. The citizens of Arcata have not
- 16 had a chance to discuss any of those things in any of
- 17 the changes.
- 18 So I would urge you to reject this document,
- 19 the resolution, on the basis of it's not following the
- 20 CEQA regulations, and that the public does still need
- 21 to have much more a say in this matter. And, you know,
- 22 I'm just -- I'm very tired of everybody going back and
- 23 forth saying, "Yes, it is." "No, it isn't," and there
- 24 seems to be a huge lacking of any kind of
- 25 documentation. It's just somebody's unverified opinion
- 26 here, there, on both sides, and a little bit of

- 1 documentation today. I think that the people of Arcata
- 2 deserve to have their full comments as is required by
- 3 CEQA.
- 4 Thank you.
- 5 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman, may I ask
- 6 Mr. Machi a question?
- 7 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Yes.
- 8 MEMBER JONES: You participated in this
- 9 process up there. When this thing went for -- in front
- 10 of the planning commission, I'm assuming for the
- 11 conditional use permit?
- MR. MACHI: Yes.
- 13 MEMBER JONES: It was deemed rejected
- 14 because it was a 2-2 vote?
- MR. MACHI: Yes.
- 16 MEMBER JONES: That was after one day of
- 17 hearings or two days of hearings?
- 18 MR. MACHI: That was after two days of
- 19 hearings, because there were so many people who showed
- 20 up at the first one, in spite of only noticing probably
- 21 a dozen businesses and residents around the area that
- 22 were 300 feet away. The word got out, and we had so
- 23 many people there that flooded the meeting that they
- 24 had to do a complete other meeting two weeks later.
- 25 MEMBER JONES: Okay. So the planning
- 26 department comes 2-2, so it gets appealed to the city

- 1 council of Arcata --
- 2 MR. MACHI: Yes.
- 3 MEMBER JONES: -- to deal with the
- 4 conditional use permit and the mitigated negative dec?
- 5 MR. MACHI: Yes.
- 6 MEMBER JONES: All right. When you said
- 7 that they got testimony from the public and then
- 8 stopped the process and then negotiated whatever they
- 9 negotiated, did that happen all in the first day, the
- 10 second day?
- 11 MR. MACHI: As far as the appeal by the JPA
- 12 to the city council, we had public testimony for -- it
- 13 was a special meeting, and it was from 7:00 o'clock
- 14 approximately to 11:30.
- 15 MEMBER JONES: Were the issues on the
- 16 conditional use permit, because if they appealed the
- 17 conditional use permit --
- MR. MACHI: Yes.
- 19 MEMBER JONES: That's what they appealed;
- 20 correct?
- MR. MACHI: Yes.
- 22 MEMBER JONES: So that went to the city of
- 23 Arcata and the public testified -- or everybody
- 24 testified from 7:00 o'clock at night until when?
- MR. MACHI: Approximately 11:30.
- 26 MEMBER JONES: All right. And then was it

- 1 the conditional use permit that was negotiated?
- 2 MR. MACHI: The next day the council did
- 3 deliberations on the project as a whole and decided to
- 4 open up public testimony again for people who had not
- 5 testified the previous day, and just a few people did,
- 6 and it was still limited to three minutes for
- 7 everybody, and some people who had testified the next
- 8 day just got up there and spoke anyhow, and after that,
- 9 the council negotiated with the applicants all the
- 10 terms of the agreement as it was happening, after
- 11 public comment was shut down.
- 12 MEMBER JONES: Okay. They were negotiating
- 13 the terms of the conditional use permit?
- MR. MACHI: Yes.
- 15 MEMBER JONES: Okay. Then when did they
- 16 take the action on the mitigated negative deck?
- MR. MACHI: It all got rubber stamped that
- 18 evening.
- 19 MEMBER JONES: They're two different items.
- 20 They're two different actions.
- 21 MR. SULLIVAN: I can speak to that.
- 22 MEMBER JONES: Wait.
- MR. MACHI: I'm not sure on that one.
- 24 MEMBER JONES: Okay. 'Cause it is -- I see
- 25 Katherine's not here, but it is an issue for me,
- 26 because -- I wouldn't even think of -- I thought that

- 1 you guys were negotiating the mitigated neg-dec. You
- 2 were negotiating the conditional use permit. So I'm
- 3 wondering if what --
- 4 MR. MACHI: We don't even know what they
- 5 were negotiating as such. They just got up there --
- 6 MEMBER JONES: Then I don't feel alone.
- 7 MR. MACHI: Yeah. I have no idea what they
- 8 did. Like I say, the first time I've seen any of this
- 9 was today -- or yesterday. I got a fax showing a list
- 10 of what exactly the council had done.
- 11 MEMBER JONES: All right. I'll safe this
- 12 question for others later on, but I think it is
- 13 critical from a standpoint of what was being proved,
- 14 the conditions of the use of the property, or the
- 15 mitigated negative dec. And so I will -- I appreciate
- 16 it. Thank you.
- 17 MR. MACHI: Please do, because I don't know.
- 18 After being there the whole time, I have no idea
- 19 exactly what they did.
- 20 MEMBER JONES: Thank you.
- MR. MACHI: Thank you.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Next we'll have
- 23 Jeff Knapp.
- MR. KNAPP: Thank you for having us here.
- 25 My name is Jeff Knapp, and I'm a citizen of Arcata
- 26 where I've lived since 1995. I'm a former attorney and

- 1 now a recruiter headhunter of attorneys, and I wish I
- 2 had 10 percent of the money being received by all the
- 3 attorneys I've seen so far.
- 4 I have a six-year-old girl in an Arcata
- 5 school, a ten-month-old son, and I own a home in
- 6 Arcata. I do not live near this project.
- 7 I'm not opposed to a transfer station in
- 8 Arcata if it makes economic and environmental sense and
- 9 is consistent with our city's goals and policies. I'm
- 10 not a not-in-my-backyard person, and there are many
- 11 people like me, but who are still opposed to this
- 12 project, and they could accept it, but for vital
- 13 concerns that I think we share. My own concern is in
- 14 several areas.
- 15 First, and you've already started to see the
- 16 haste involved, is causing a lack of time that we've
- 17 had in Arcata, but also in Humboldt County, because I
- 18 don't think the citizens of Humboldt County really
- 19 understand what this is all about. We haven't had time
- 20 to learn what this project is.
- 21 Second, when we do learn, the time is up.
- 22 We're suddenly finding hearings like this taking place,
- 23 and this is, again, our first chance to be heard, and
- 24 it seems very late in the process for, again, our
- 25 learning about this and then looking around for a
- 26 forum, and then further changes that are made by the

- 1 proposed addendum, which, again, I have not seen until
- 2 very recently.
- 3 It's obvious to me and to many of us the
- 4 need for a full environmental impact report on this
- 5 project, because it has so many significant local
- 6 impacts. I don't speak the jargon. My practice of law
- 7 of area was in pension plans, so I won't try and speak
- 8 that language, but just a few common sense things that
- 9 aren't addressed by the negative declaration but that
- 10 would be addressed by an EIR.
- 11 Our roads are closed by floods and slides.
- 12 Sometimes for long periods, and all this goes by truck.
- 13 Detention basins fill up with rain and have no more
- 14 room for whatever this project sends to them. A highly
- 15 sensitive creek is next to the project. This area
- 16 floods, and remember El Nino. We have a lot of
- 17 earthquakes in our area. A lot of trucks make a lot of
- 18 noise and dust. Garbage stinks; what will we smell?
- 19 Truck drivers are in a hurry to get there and turn
- 20 around, so a lot of truck traffic raises safety
- 21 questions.
- I've not seen these addressed in the
- 23 negative declaration or any other documentation that
- 24 I've seen, or if they've been addressed, it's obvious
- 25 they have been addressed in haste with conclusions and
- 26 without data.

- 1 Again, as to the haste involved, I'm
- 2 starting to get telephone calls and comments from local
- 3 stock brokers, business owners, homeowners, and the
- 4 like, and they are both angry and surprised. They do
- 5 not know the permit issued would be permanent. They do
- 6 not fully understand where this site is until recently
- 7 when our citizens group got some flyers and started
- 8 hand carrying them here and there and our local
- 9 newspaper started running some articles and letters to
- 10 the editor. They certainly did not know that this may
- 11 or will create higher costs to them as rate payers and
- 12 risks, and that there are alternatives that haven't
- 13 been explored.
- 14 They had no idea this many trucks would use
- 15 Somoa Boulevard, regardless of where they live. And
- 16 they also don't know what alternatives sites there
- 17 might be that they might actually favor, because,
- 18 frankly, if this would bring money to Arcata, we
- 19 certainly need it.
- 20 And, finally, it's evident to me, both
- 21 locally and talking around and also from here, there is
- 22 no emergency. The alleged reasons for haste just don't
- 23 add up.
- 24 Also, what expertise I've seen applied to
- 25 these questions by the city and its consultants seems
- 26 to be, to me, hasty, poorly informed, and given enough

- 1 time, our citizens group, as we speak, is trying to
- 2 locate experts in geology, air quality, hydrology
- 3 soils, liquefaction, and the other disciplines that you
- 4 really need to hear from to find out what this is, but
- 5 also, frankly, that our city needs to hear from, and
- 6 they've not, because they have either been in a hurry,
- 7 or they have hired people that, it seems to me, are
- 8 giving them the answers they want to hear, but we need
- 9 time, and we need a full EIR.
- 10 I love my city, but our city simply has not
- 11 applied the resources to do the minimum review and
- 12 public notice required by the law.
- 13 At the very at least, if you decide, which I
- 14 hope you don't, to issue this permit, if there's any
- 15 way you can do so with the condition that they first
- 16 need to do the full EIR on this project. If that is an
- 17 alternative, that would also serve us, but it's ironic
- 18 that a city that requires an EIR of almost every
- 19 project, and is the vein of every local developer that
- 20 you can think of, does not require an EIR for a project
- 21 like this when it is the project proponent.
- 22 Thank you for your attention. If you have
- 23 any questions, I'll answer them.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Questions?
- Okay. Thank you.
- MR. MACHI: Thank you.

- 1 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Now we'll here
- 2 from Aaron Isherwood and Laurel Impett.
- 3 MR. ISHERWOOD: There's one more member of
- 4 the group that wants to speak.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: I'm sorry. I'm in a
- 6 rush here. I'm sorry.
- 7 Stan Henderson.
- 8 MR. HENDERSON: Mr. Chairman, members of the
- 9 Board, my name is Stan Henderson. I've lived in
- 10 Arcata. I have a business in Arcata. Lived in Arcata
- 11 for over 17 years. What I'd like to speak about is
- 12 really from the ground. Again, I'm not an expert in
- 13 anything.
- 14 About a week ago I went door to door, and in
- 15 five hours' time spoke to about 103 people. 101 of
- 16 them signed the letters that you received by fax last
- 17 week. Many of these people live on Tenth Street.
- 18 Tenth Street floods every year. Tenth Street is just
- 19 north of this project.
- 20 Again, I don't know what experts will say,
- 21 but the fact of the matter is, the area floods, and in
- 22 connection about this, Patti mentioned the marsh
- 23 project, 50 feet away from this proposed project.
- 24 Well, that marsh is contiguous with Humboldt Bay, and I
- 25 would like to submit a couple of letters.
- One is a letter that is -- can you hear me?

- 1 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Yes.
- 2 MR. HENDERSON: It seems I'm going in and
- 3 out. This is a letter that was sent to our local
- 4 chairman of the Fish and Game Commission, Geoff Neely,
- 5 and it's from the State Department of Fish and Game,
- 6 and they are concerned with spillage into state marine
- 7 near-shore environments. They're asking his opinion
- 8 about any problems in our local area. I'd like to
- 9 submit this to you, and in connection with this, I have
- 10 a letter from Mr. Neely, who's acting in a private
- 11 capacity since the Fish and Game Commission has not met
- 12 on this yet.
- 13 I'd like to read it to you. It's very
- 14 brief. It's addressed to Mr. Pennington.
- 15 "Dear Mr. Pennington, thank you for your
- 16 rapid response to my letter of the 14th of September.
- 17 I do indeed appreciate your concern. There are some
- 18 items that I did not bring to your attention at the
- 19 last time of my letter. I would like to bring them up
- 20 now.
- 21 "The California Department of Fish and Game,
- 22 Office of Spill Prevention and Response Team Region is
- 23 implementing a comprehensive geographic information
- 24 system, GIS, for the California Marine near-shore
- 25 environment. This is defined as the area from the
- 26 shoreline out to a depth 100 fathoms.

- 1 Since the proposed site location is at a
- 2 water table of six inches above high tide, I have major
- 3 concerns for our bay. Just to name a few of the
- 4 species and companies that could be impacted by a
- 5 poorly located waste transfer center: Coho salmon
- freshwater creek estuary is in northern Humboldt Bay;
- 7 Sturgeon spawn in north Humboldt Bay; halibut spawn in
- 8 north Humboldt Bay; halibut sport fisheries, north
- 9 Humboldt Bay; Coast Oyster Company, north Humboldt Bay.
- 10 This is one of the largest commercial oyster beds, if
- 11 not the largest, in the world.
- 12 "Please take these into consideration before
- 13 your final decision is made, and I would like to know
- 14 what the California Department of Fish and Game Spill
- 15 Prevention Response Team would have to say on this
- 16 issue."
- 17 I'll submit these.
- In conclusion, I would just like to say
- 19 Arcata's a small town. This is a project six blocks
- 20 from the city center. We're on the ground. We are the
- 21 people that are going to have to live with the results
- 22 of this decision. I hope that you'll consider this.
- 23 We're the ones that are going to smell the foul air.
- 24 We're the ones that are going to have to deal with the
- 25 increased rodent population. We're the ones that are
- 26 going to see a world-class marsh project threatened.

- 1 So I hope that you will take all of these
- 2 nonexpert observations into consideration.
- 3 Thank you.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Thank you. Any
- 5 questions?
- 6 Thank you, Mr. Henderson.
- 7 Now we'll hear from Aaron.
- 8 MR. ISHERWOOD: Thank you. Good afternoon.
- 9 I think it's afternoon now. My name is
- 10 Aaron Isherwood, and I'm an attorney with the law firm
- 11 of Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger. We represent the United
- 12 Neighborhood Alliance of Humboldt County. You've heard
- 13 from a few members of that group today. They've come
- 14 up with a name for themselves, and the Alliance is --
- 15 we're dedicated to protecting the environment and
- 16 quality of life for the people who live and work in or
- 17 around the city of Arcata, and you've already heard
- 18 from a few members of the group this morning about some
- 19 of the significant environmental impacts that they're
- 20 concerned about that may or will result from this waste
- 21 transfer station.
- These folks that you've heard from have
- 23 certainly travelled a long way to share their concerns
- 24 with you. I heard that they arrived last night about
- 25 2:00 o'clock in the morning because of fog. Their
- 26 flight was cancelled, but I'm sure I speak for all of

- 1 them when I say that they very much appreciate your
- 2 giving them this opportunity to express their views
- 3 about the project, and I know they appreciate your
- 4 attentiveness to their concerns.
- 5 As their attorney, my purpose in speaking to
- 6 you today is just to provide a legal context for their
- 7 comment for you to consider as you deliberate on the
- 8 addendum and the permit applications we have before you
- 9 today. I know you've heard quite a lot already, and I
- 10 imagine everyone's getting a little hungry, so I do
- 11 promise I will keep my comments very brief and to the
- 12 point.
- The bottom line here is that the
- 14 environmental review, which has been performed by the
- 15 City of Arcata for the waste transfer station, is
- 16 wholly inadequate and falls far short of the
- 17 requirements of the California Environmental Quality
- 18 Act. Now, we heard from the CEQA attorney for the
- 19 Authority that you should simply defer to the city's
- 20 environmental documents. With all due respect, that's
- 21 ridiculous. As a responsible agency you have an
- 22 obligation to ensure that the environmental review for
- 23 this waste transfer station complies with CEQA, and
- 24 it's particularly, in light of the fact that the city
- 25 has provided this addendum and asked you to approve
- 26 this addendum, you most certainly do have a role to

- 1 play here. So I would urge you to consider the
- 2 comments about the environmental review that has been
- 3 taken by the city and consider those very carefully,
- 4 and in light of what you've heard today and in the
- 5 past, there can be no doubt that an environmental
- 6 impact report should have been prepared for this
- 7 project.
- 8 The California Environmental Quality Act
- 9 provides a very low threshold for when an environmental
- 10 impact report must be prepared, and, in fact, the
- 11 California Supreme Court has consistently held that an
- 12 environmental impact report must be prepared whenever
- 13 it can be fairly argued that the project may have a
- 14 significant effect on the environment. Not that it
- 15 will have a significant effect, but that it may have a
- 16 significant effect. And you should also know that
- 17 under this standard the courts do not defer to the
- 18 agency's decision not to prepare an EIR. And as the
- 19 Court of Appeal stated recently in striking down a
- 20 city's decision not to require an EIR, and I quote,
- 21 "Deference to the agency's determination is not
- 22 appropriate, and it's decision not to require an EIR
- 23 can be upheld only when there is no credible evidence
- 24 that the project might have a significant environmental
- 25 impact."
- Now, let's say you've got a disagreement

- 1 among experts about whether there's significant
- 2 environmental impacts. Can the agency, the city in
- 3 this case, simply defer to its own experts? Can you
- 4 simply defer to the Air Quality Management District
- 5 which has submitted some comments on the expert air
- 6 quality analysis that was provided to you today? CEQA
- 7 says the answer is no. The CEQA guidelines -- state
- 8 CEQA guidelines expressly provide that if there is a
- 9 disagreement among experts about whether the project
- 10 may have a significant environmental impact, the agency
- 11 must prepare an EIR. CEQA guideline Section 15064-H.
- 12 And that makes sense if you think about it, because the
- 13 whole purpose of an EIR is to find out -- identify the
- 14 potential impacts and analyze them and determine what
- 15 the extent of those impacts are. That's why you do an
- 16 EIR, and I just want to tell you about just one case
- just to show you how this standard plays out.
- In 1994 the Court of Appeal decided a case
- 19 called Quail Botanical Gardens versus City of
- 20 Encinitas, and in that case the city certified a
- 21 mitigated negative declaration for a small 40-unit
- 22 subdivision, just as the City of Arcata did here for
- 23 the waste transfer station, and the court held that the
- 24 city prejudicially abused its discretion by not
- 25 requiring an EIR for the sole reason that there was
- 26 evidence in the record that the project would diminish

- 1 people's views of the ocean from a public park, and the
- 2 court reached that conclusion even though the city had
- 3 required the applicant to mitigate the adverse impact
- 4 on views by constructing the subdivision so that it
- 5 would be no higher than four feet above eye level from
- 6 the perspective of person trying to view the ocean from
- 7 the park, but the court found that even with that
- 8 mitigation there was evidence that the project might
- 9 have a significant adverse impact because a child or a
- 10 person in a wheelchair would have their view of the
- 11 ocean obstructed.
- 12 Now, in the case of the waste transfer
- 13 station, we're not just talking about an obstructed
- 14 view of the ocean. We've heard about significant air
- 15 quality impacts. We've heard about water quality
- 16 impacts, odors, noise, rats, a whole host of other
- 17 potentially significant impacts.
- In these circumstances it is clear that an
- 19 environmental impact report must be prepared to
- 20 evaluate these impacts, but the city hasn't done that,
- 21 and it hasn't complied with CEQA, and for that reason
- 22 we strongly urge you to reject the permit application
- 23 that you have before you today and send this whole
- 24 thing back to the city so that they can get it right.
- Now, the second thing I want to talk about
- 26 is specifically about the addendum you have before you.

- 1 As you know, the project that you're considering today
- 2 is not the same project that was evaluated by the city
- 3 when it certified the negative declaration. Under the
- 4 revised project as we know, solid waste will no longer
- 5 be transported by rail but instead will be hauled up to
- 6 Oregon in trucks. Now, that change should have
- 7 prompted additional environmental review, but the city
- 8 hasn't done that. Instead all the city has done is
- 9 prepared this addendum, which has never been circulated
- 10 for public review.
- 11 Now, CEQA says you can do an addendum but
- 12 only when there are minor technical changes to the
- 13 project. Is this a minor technical change? Are we
- 14 talking about correcting a typographical error, adding
- 15 a few words here and there? Of course not. We're
- 16 talking about a fundemental change in the way that
- 17 waste will be transported from the waste transfer
- 18 station. Now, will that change result in new
- 19 significant environmental impacts? The fact is that we
- 20 don't know. I think Board Member Jones pointed that
- 21 out, because the city hasn't done the environmental
- 22 analysis to enable you to make that determination.
- We've heard, "Well, these trucks are going
- 24 up to Oregon anyway, so there won't be any impacts."
- 25 That's the addendum says, but we've also heard expert
- 26 testimony today that trucks loaded down with garbage

- 1 emit a lot more pollutants than empty trucks. The
- 2 addendum doesn't even address that issue. So what
- 3 we've got here -- we also received a fax from the Air
- 4 Quality Management District, which the public hasn't
- 5 had opportunity to review and comment on. You know, I
- 6 haven't even seen this yet, and at best that creates a
- 7 disagreement among expert. You've got the Air Quality
- 8 Management District expert saying one thing unsupported
- 9 by any quantitative analysis. You've got experts in
- 10 air quality analysis, who have spoken to you today, who
- 11 say that there will be impacts. Disagreement among
- 12 experts, that means you've got to prepare an
- 13 environmental impact report. Then the city can defer
- 14 to its own experts if it wants to, but we don't have
- 15 the information yet.
- 16 Even if the city had conducted the
- 17 environmental analysis and concluded that there aren't
- 18 going to be significant impacts resulting from this
- 19 change -- this switch from rail to trucks, the proper
- 20 course would have been, in that instance, to prepare a
- 21 subsequent negative declaration. Circulate that for
- 22 public review. Allow public comment. Allow comment
- 23 from the responsible agencies, and then certify that,
- 24 if the city so choose, but instead the city hasn't done
- 25 that. They have simply sloughed this whole problem off
- on the Board, and your response should be to send this

- 1 thing right back to the city where it belongs so the
- 2 city can perform its obligations under CEQA and get it
- 3 right.
- 4 So to summarize, there's a very low
- 5 threshold under CEQA for when an EIR is required. If
- 6 there's any substantial evidence in the record, the
- 7 project might have a significant environmental impact,
- 8 and the city has got to prepare an EIR, and since
- 9 there's been a change in the project subsequent to the
- 10 city's approval of the mitigated negative dec, then the
- 11 city has to undertake further environmental review to
- 12 determine what the impacts will be that will result
- 13 from that change. Simply preparing an addendum is not
- 14 enough to comply with CEQA, and since the city hasn't
- 15 complied with CEQA, this Board has no business
- 16 approving this permit today or the addendum.
- 17 That's really all I have to say, but I have
- 18 brought with me today another person from our office,
- 19 Laurel Impett. She's not an attorney. She's an urban
- 20 planner, and she's also an expert in CEQA compliance.
- 21 She's reviewed literally hundreds of CEQA documents,
- 22 and so I'd like to turn it over to her to talk more to
- 23 you today about whether the legal standards that I
- 24 discussed that I've described have been met.
- 25 If there are no more questions, thank very
- 26 much.

- 1 MS. IMPETT: Thanks Aaron. Good
- 2 afternoon -- it is afternoon -- members of the Board.
- 3 My name is Laurel Impett. I'm a planner with the firm
- 4 of Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger. I'm not an attorney.
- 5 Before my tenure stint at Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger I
- 6 was air quality specialist for the United States
- 7 Environmental Protection Agency.
- 8 And as Aaron said, there is a very low
- 9 standard for the preparation of an EIR for this
- 10 project. The construction and operation of this waste
- 11 transfer facility at this location will result in
- 12 significant adverse impacts. I'll cover only a few
- 13 here, and I want to start with air quality, and because
- 14 it has been covered so extensively, I won't go into a
- 15 bit of detail other than confirm my agreement with the
- 16 SCS Engineers report that the increase in PM-10
- 17 emissions, as a whole different operation of the waste
- 18 transfer station, will result in significant adverse
- 19 impacts, especially because this a facility that will
- 20 operate in a nonattainment area for PM-10.
- 21 The fact that the Air District refutes the
- 22 SCS study does not release the city, or this Board,
- 23 from its obligation to prepare or rely on an EIR for
- 24 the approval of this permit. In fact, the mere
- 25 presence of the Air District in this forum demonstrates
- 26 the vulnerability of this initial study and mitigated

- 1 declaration, and I think, as Aaron noted, it's very
- 2 important to note that this -- that the report prepared
- 3 by the Air District has not been circulated to the
- 4 public for public review and comment, and it's also
- 5 important to note as others have before me that Air
- 6 District provides no evidence supporting it's claim of
- 7 an insignificant impact. It merely states those
- 8 conclusions. The only evidence that is before this
- 9 Board does demonstrate a significant air quality
- 10 impact.
- 11 Yet another fundamentally significant impact
- 12 to this project is the land use impact and the
- 13 project's inconsistency with Arcata's general plan.
- 14 Although land use is not necessarily within the
- 15 jurisdiction of this Board, in this instance the Board
- 16 must consider land use impacts since they are
- 17 significant, again, constituting another impact under
- 18 CEQA. As you know, under CEQA there's a presumption
- 19 that a project will have a significant impact on the
- 20 environment if a result in a land use conflict or if a
- 21 project is inconsistent with the city's general plan.
- Deciding of a waste transfer station at this
- 23 location is directly inconsistent with Arcata's general
- 24 plan and with its zoning ordinance, and I'll discuss
- 25 just a few of these inconsistencies. The city
- 26 regulates land use in areas with significant natural

- 1 hazards by defining them as critical facilities.
- 2 Arcata Zoning Ordinance states that "Critical
- 3 facilities include essential facilities such as
- 4 hospitals, schools, and other similar uses, which must
- 5 be available to operate after a public emergency." In
- 6 approving the project, Arcata identified the waste
- 7 transfer station as, quote, "an essential public
- 8 service."
- 9 The general plan's coastal element prohibits
- 10 new critical facilities from locating in areas of
- 11 potential liquefaction. The initial study for this
- 12 project makes clear that this transfer station is
- 13 located in an area of potential liquefaction. Deciding
- 14 of the waste transfer station at this location is an
- 15 egregious violation of the city's general plan.
- In addition, the city zoning ordinance
- 17 provides that a coastal development permit may be
- 18 granted only if the development conforms with the
- 19 coastal element. The coastal element in turn provides
- 20 that conditional use permits for certain heavy
- 21 manufacturing uses may be approved, quote, "only when
- 22 no feasible less environmentally damaging alternative
- 23 is available."
- 24 The project meets the coastal elements
- 25 definition of a heavy manufacturing use, which includes
- 26 salvage yards, the manufacture, refining, and storage

- 1 of various items, including concrete and paving
- 2 product. Arcata's failure to undertake this necessary
- 3 alternatives analysis prior to issuing the conditional
- 4 use perit renders the project directly inconsistent
- 5 with both the general plan and the zoning ordinance.
- 6 Nowhere is the need for an EIR more apparent
- 7 than in the issue of addressing environmental impacts
- 8 associated with self-haul, or, more accurately, the
- 9 deletion of self-haul component of this project. The
- 10 city council deleted the self-haul component of this
- 11 project allegedly to reduce traffic impacts, yet a
- 12 member of this Board attested to the environmental
- 13 impacts that could result from a project that does not
- 14 include self-haul. Specifically approving a facility
- 15 where self-haul is not allowed may substantially reduce
- 16 the community's recycling efforts.
- 17 Eliminating self-haul opportunities may also
- 18 result in illegal dumping of garbage. The issue of
- 19 self-haul is multifaceted. The appropriate forum for
- 20 studying impacts associated with self-haul is an EIR.
- 21 And I'd like to make just one additional
- 22 point, and it's been raised, again, previously. The
- 23 Humboldt County Waste Management Authority itself
- 24 recognized the need to prepare an EIR when it released
- 25 a notice of preparation for the, quote, "permanent
- 26 transfer facility." Numerous agencies, including Cal

- 1 EPA, commented on that NOP asserting their agreement
- 2 that an EIR was an the appropriate forum for a waste
- 3 transfer station. I have to ask this question, why
- 4 would a permanent facility be any different from a
- 5 temporary in this situation? It's not as if this
- 6 facility were only going to operate for a week or two.
- 7 The facility is going to operate for a minimum of two
- 8 years.
- 9 Clearly, this waste transfer facility will
- 10 result in air and water pollution. It will pose a risk
- 11 of public health, increase traffic congestion in the
- 12 area, and because the project is located a mere 1,000
- 13 feet away from residences, residents will suffer from
- 14 the nuisance of odors and high noise levels.
- In addition, as previous members have
- 16 stated, the site is located in a 100-year flood zone,
- 17 and the site routinely floods. CEQA states that an EIR
- 18 is required whenever a project will have a significant
- 19 effect on the environment. It's that simple. The
- 20 Board should not get caught up on the term "temporary."
- 21 Remember, all of the commercially hauled
- 22 waste for six and possibly seven jurisdictions will
- 23 that waste to this transfer station until a permanent
- 24 facility is built. Clearly this is a project that will
- 25 have significant impacts on the environment.
- The Board has the discretion to approve or

- 1 deny this project today. The question you have to ask
- 2 yourselves is, are you relying on a legally adequate
- 3 environmental document?
- 4 And I'll leave it at that. Thank you.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Questions?
- 6 MEMBER EATON: I just have one question of
- 7 either you or the lawyer.
- 8 What group do you represent?
- 9 MS. IMPETT: We represent the group of
- 10 citizens that were just talking, the United Alliance.
- 11 MEMBER EATON: And you've represented them
- 12 in the past or is it just this time?
- MS. IMPETT: No. They've retained us on
- 14 this issue.
- 15 MEMBER EATON: Okay.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Any other questions?
- 17 If not, I think that concludes our -- oh, Mr. Schaub.
- MR. SCHAUB: I'm Victor Schaub. I'm the
- 19 general counsel for the Authority, the applicant.
- 20 Besides being the general counsel -- that's
- 21 a rather new role -- I also live in Arcata. I have for
- 22 many years, and my children and grandchildren live
- 23 there. Until two years ago I was a member of the
- 24 Arcata City Council where I served for eight and a half
- 25 years, and three terms consecutively was elected as the
- 26 mayor, and when I served in that role I was on the

- 1 Environmental Quality Policy Committee of the League of
- 2 Cities for about five years and the equivalent entity
- 3 at the national level. So I, too, have knowledge and
- 4 sensitivity to the environmental impact issues, and,
- 5 indeed, the city of Arcata, which has approved the
- 6 environmental document before you, is probably one of
- 7 the most environmentally conscious cities in this
- 8 nation. I think that bares mention.
- 9 The city of Arcata conducted hours and
- 10 hours -- 17 hours, at least, of public hearings on this
- 11 matter, and that's chronicled also in the letter from
- 12 John Woolley that you mentioned this morning, and I
- 13 trust that that's becoming a part of the record?
- 14 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: It is.
- MR. SCHAUB: Along with the communication
- 16 from the Northern California Air Quality Management
- 17 District as part of the record.
- So what we're reviewing here today is the
- 19 addendum to the environmental document. And it's my
- 20 understanding that that addendum was requested by this
- 21 Board and your staff. It's not something that was
- 22 generated at the idea of the City of Arcata, and the
- 23 key issue before us is whether or not there are
- 24 significant changes represented in the addendum or
- 25 whether they're minor technical changes. It all hinges
- 26 on that. If this were significant changes, then I'd

- 1 have to give a lot of credence to what City Garbage and
- 2 Norcal have been telling you, but it all rests upon
- 3 whether it's significant changes or minor changes.
- 4 In looking at the addendum itself -- oh, and
- 5 by the way, in response to Board Member Jones' concerns
- 6 about the process in Arcata, these (indicating) are the
- 7 minutes of the meeting of the city council when the
- 8 project was approved, and it clearly states that it was
- 9 a public hearing on a consideration of two appeals of
- 10 the planning commission's denial of conditional use
- 11 permit and coastal development permit applications for
- 12 a temporarily solid waste transfer station at the North
- 13 Coast Hardwood site on Somoa Boulevard. And when you
- 14 look at these minutes, this is almost a model of how
- 15 the democratic process is supposed to work. Citizens
- 16 were allowed numerous hours and reopenings of the
- 17 public hearing to address their concerns, and in what
- 18 was referred to by one of the speakers as negotiations,
- 19 all that was going on was that the elected body was
- 20 fashioning conditions to address the concerns expressed
- 21 by the citizens during the public hearing process.
- 22 That's the way this is supposed to work.
- 23 But looking at the addendum, getting back to
- 24 the real issue here -- yes, sir.
- 25 MEMBER JONES: Can I ask a question on that?
- MR. SCHAUB: Yeah.

- 1 MEMBER JONES: The item was a conditional
- 2 use permit and the coastal permit?
- 3 MR. SCHAUB: That's correct.
- 4 MEMBER JONES: When did the city council
- 5 vote on accepting the mitigated neg-dec?
- 6 MR. SCHAUB: Well, that would have been a
- 7 part of the motion.
- 8 MEMBER JONES: Why would it be a part of the
- 9 motion? The conditions on how you operate versus are
- 10 there significant environmental impacts are two
- 11 different things. They're two different items. The
- 12 conditions of how you operate, how you use the land are
- 13 one issue. The negative dec is another issue.
- 14 MR. SCHAUB: They heard testimony on both at
- 15 the same time.
- 16 MEMBER JONES: When did they take the action
- 17 to accept the mitigated negative dec?
- 18 MR. SCHAUB: They did it all in one night.
- 19 MEMBER JONES: So they crafted the
- 20 conditional use permit and as a result of that, they
- voted on a mitigated neg-dec?
- MR. SCHAUB: No. They crafted those
- 23 conditions in the context of the negative dec.
- 24 MEMBER JONES: Okay.
- MR. SCHAUB: So the things in the addendum,
- 26 the exact location of the project, that's just a little

- 1 confusion over the number of different parcel numbers
- on the property. That's not a significant change.
- 3 The number and types of trucks, that was
- 4 just clarifying the record. There's no -- all that was
- 5 being clarified in that -- all that's being clarified
- 6 in that is that the trucks that are hauling garbage out
- 7 are trucks that are coming in anyway.
- 8 And then the self-haul, the reclusion of the
- 9 rail movement, if anything, that contracts the project
- 10 instead of expands the project, and the self-haul
- 11 options, that's only a problem here because of the
- 12 principle opponent of this permit, and that's City
- 13 Garbage. The only reason there's a self-haul issue is
- 14 because they won't tell us whether they're going to
- 15 continuing operating or not.
- 16 And then the other one is to clarify that
- 17 none of the environmental documentation for the
- 18 temporary facility will be carried over and used by the
- 19 permit for the permanent facility. That's the law
- anyway.
- 21 So those are the changes that are before
- 22 you, and I submit that those are minor technical
- 23 changes, not significant changes. The only thing
- 24 that's been bought before you is this air quality thing
- 25 and that's bogus. Clearly the report -- the
- 26 responsible agency, the North Coast Air Quality Control

- 1 Board -- or Management District, that is the entity
- 2 with the primary responsibility in this issue. They
- 3 had their input during the CEQA process. They
- 4 determined that the data that's been presented to you
- 5 was not necessary, and, in fact, the data eschewed.
- 6 It's based upon criteria for the Southern California
- 7 district and it replaces -- in its analysis, it
- 8 replaces bulk with weight. That creates smoke and
- 9 mirrors. It's not an issue.
- I know that your job is difficult. I've
- 11 been sitting in those chairs before many times, and I'm
- 12 very familiar with the citizens that came and spoke
- 13 before you. I've seen them at the microphone in front
- 14 of the desk where I was sitting -- the same people
- 15 saying essentially the same thing about other projects.
- 16 And I know it's a difficult thing, but sometimes you
- 17 have to do what you have to do, and the right thing to
- 18 do here is to approve this environmental document and
- 19 to approve our permit.
- Thank you very much.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Any questions
- of Mr. Schaub?
- 23 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman, I have a couple
- 24 questions. I don't know if Mr. Schaub is the
- 25 appropriate party to answer.
- 26 What date did the JPA establish with the

- 1 contractor that's building the facility, that is
- 2 supposed to be operational on October 1st, what date
- 3 they give that he must be completed by?
- 4 MR. SCHAUB: By October 1st.
- 5 MEMBER JONES: So the building will be done
- 6 in two weeks?
- 7 MR. SCHAUB: Well, we hope. We're not sure,
- 8 and we have at the staff level discussed alternatives
- 9 on a community-by-community basis for dealing with that
- 10 issue, and we think we have it under control.
- 11 MEMBER JONES: And I asked the question
- 12 because I was faxed newspaper articles from Arcata.
- MR. SCHAUB: They're very inaccurate.
- 14 MEMBER JONES: But, you know, we can only go
- 15 from what we read.
- MR. SCHAUB: I hear you.
- 17 MEMBER JONES: It comes from the Arcata Eye,
- 18 and there was a -- there's a quote here from --
- 19 Kevin Hoover is the Eye editor?
- 20 MR. SCHAUB: The Eye editor and the reporter
- 21 and everything.
- 22 MEMBER JONES: I've been in towns like that.
- MR. SCHAUB: Publisher.
- 24 MEMBER JONES: I know. Believe me, you
- 25 don't ever want to argue with a guy that buys ink by
- 26 the barrel.

- "Waste Transfer Station Delayed," and
- 2 there's a quote in the third column that says -- they
- 3 talk about the fact that City Garbage is willing to
- 4 allow continued use of Cummings Road and some other
- 5 stuff. Then it says, "Another JPA official said they
- 6 would stack up garbage in the streets before they would
- 7 do any further business with City Garbage."
- 8 That's a quote in the paper. I don't know
- 9 if it's right or not. I've been misquoted a lot of
- 10 times.
- 11 They also talk about how Mr. Kindsfather is
- 12 going to look at some of the strike scenarios -- it
- 13 happened in the Bay Area -- to decide how to handle
- 14 waste in that community if this thing doesn't gets
- 15 approved. I guess my question would be, what -- we're
- 16 faced with a unique situation here. Is there an
- 17 advantage gained by Norcal if we do our job?
- 18 MR. SCHAUB: Absolutely.
- 19 MEMBER JONES: So --
- 20 MR. SCHAUB: Then we have no choice but to
- 21 do business with them.
- 22 MEMBER JONES: For how long?
- 23 MR. SCHAUB: Forever, because so far, we've
- 24 been shut out. We couldn't even make a deal with them
- 25 over temporary transfer station that we only need for
- 26 two years, and they insisted on a contract for ten

- 1 years, and that's why we're here.
- 2 MEMBER JONES: But -- okay. And that's a
- 3 problem. That's a huge problem for me --
- 4 MR. SCHAUB: Right.
- 5 MEMBER JONES: -- because -- just so
- 6 everybody knows -- I don't want people leaving here and
- 7 saying, "Well, that guy used to work for Norcal." I
- 8 worked for Norcal for 18 and a half years. I was fired
- 9 by Norcal. I didn't leave. I was fired.
- 10 MR. SCHAUB: Well, you still left.
- 11 MEMBER JONES: I still left, but I want you
- 12 to understand that I didn't leave with a bouquet. I
- 13 need you to understand that when I left there I went
- 14 somewhere else and after there I came here. So it's
- 15 critical that you understand that, because I don't want
- 16 to broach a lot of questions that gives an advantage,
- 17 where the regulatory demands on us in a level that we
- 18 have to live by, which I've done a pretty good job and
- 19 so has this Board for the two years that I've been here
- 20 of upholding, this wouldn't even be an issue in my mind
- 21 if it was another company. I would have taken an
- 22 action that was clearly you would not have been happy
- 23 with, but because I am a former Norcal employee, I have
- 24 to make sure that I give a lot of credence to a lot of
- 25 different things, because I don't want an advantage to
- 26 be gained by us doing our job. By the same token, I

- 1 think Norcal has a right, as do those citizens to bring
- 2 up issues that they feel are pertinent to this process.
- 3 MR. SCHAUB: I absolutely degree,
- 4 Board Member Jones.
- 5 Could I just point out though, that every
- 6 local agency that has responsibility over aspects of
- 7 this project has looked at it carefully and has
- 8 approved.
- 9 MEMBER JONES: Except your planning
- 10 department.
- 11 MR. SCHAUB: Except Norcal.
- 12 MEMBER JONES: No. Except your planning
- 13 department in the city of Arcata.
- MR. SCHAUB: There were some other --
- 15 MEMBER JONES: Your planning board voted --
- MR. SCHAUB: There were some other problems
- 17 with that having to do with timing and the number of
- 18 planning commissioners that were there that evening
- 19 because of people's -- in fact, I was on vacation with
- 20 one of the planning commissioners myself at that time,
- 21 and it was just a timing snafu, and it was really
- 22 better for the citizens, for that matter, to just push
- 23 the matter to the city council and have a full hearing
- 24 rather than to dawdle around with the planning
- 25 commission. I know that was a sentiment of some of the
- 26 planning commissioners was to move it along so it could

- 1 could get decided because they all knew that whatever
- 2 was their vote -- whatever decision they made, it was
- 3 going to get appealed to city council. So it might as
- 4 well go there, and we're here right now, and most of
- 5 the effort City Garbage is putting -- put into the
- 6 project has been here at this level. They didn't offer
- 7 their air quality analysis when air quality was being
- 8 considered at the CEQA level below. They brought it
- 9 here.
- 10 I saw that as a common tactic when I was on
- 11 the city council that people would just lay in the
- 12 bushes and wait till it got to the city council and
- 13 then experss themselves.
- 14 Thank you very much.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. That concludes
- 16 the public comment.
- 17 MEMBER EATON: Mr. Chair?
- 18 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Yes, Mr. Eaton.
- 19 MEMBER EATON: I've got a lot of paper in
- 20 front of me, and we just had a letter read into the
- 21 record from, I believe it was Mr. Neely. Just to
- 22 ensure -- I want to make sure that every document that
- 23 we have, because this is sort of an evidentiary kind of
- 24 hearing, gets read into the record. That would
- 25 include, both, Mr. Neely's comments, the addendum that
- 26 we got this morning to the District's comments of

- 1 September 16th, 1998, as well as the original document
- 2 that we received from the Air Quality District
- 3 yesterday, I believe -- late last evening. I was
- 4 travelling, so I don't know exactly the day it came in,
- 5 but I would like those, at least three things, read
- 6 into the record as well as any other documents that we
- 7 have, because that would then have a full and complete
- 8 record. We went through some of the ex partes, but I
- 9 believe there is a lot of paper floating around, as
- 10 well as the chart here from -- that was presented by
- 11 the expert for some of the opponents.
- 12 Was that the only other documentation on the
- 13 air quality stuff? Do we have some written
- 14 documentation as well that should be part of the
- 15 record, other than the oral tesimony?
- 16 MEMBER JONES: I think we did.
- 17 MEMBER EATON: We had this chart. I just
- 18 want to make sure that we have everything -- so that
- 19 should go into the record in both, and then the letter
- 20 by Mr. Neely, as well as the response by the --
- 21 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Fish and Game
- 22 Commission.
- 23 MEMBER EATON: Well, the Air Quality
- 24 District, both their documents as well as this document
- 25 from the expert.
- 26 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Ms. Tobias.

- 1 MS. TOBIAS: I appreciate Mr. Eaton's
- 2 comments on those. I think that I should make it clear
- 3 that all the documents that have been submitted to the
- 4 Board at this point are a part of the administrative
- 5 record. What I hear Mr. Eaton suggesting is that for
- 6 the ones that have been turned in this morning, that it
- 7 might be a good idea to read those into the record so
- 8 that everybody is hearing them at the same time. So I
- 9 think that's the difference of what he's saying in
- 10 terms of -- the rest of the things that have been
- 11 turned in our part of the record, but I think you've
- 12 had a chance to review those.
- MR. SWEETSER: If I may clarify one point.
- 14 Larry Sweetser with Norcal again.
- There was the air quality data from SCS
- 16 submitted prior to the last hearing on the 10th. There
- 17 were bullets on CEQA issues. There was a letter from
- 18 us on the CEQA issues -- actually from Marcus La Duca's
- 19 firm on that. So those were submitted prior to the
- 20 last hearing, and those are on record.
- 21 MS. TOBIAS: And those are all part of the
- 22 administrative record.
- 23 MEMBER EATON: And there were issues on air
- 24 quality submitted with that as well?
- MR. SWEETSER: The SCS report was attached
- 26 with the Sandberg & La Duca report that was submitted

- 1 prior to the meeting on the 10th.
- 2 MEMBER EATON: So prior to the Board's
- 3 direction to staff, that evidence was in the record?
- 4 MR. SWEETSER: The meeting on the 26th, the
- 5 Board staff gave direction after that meeting in
- 6 preparation for the meeting on the 10th. In order not
- 7 to jam you at the last minute with data, we provided
- 8 that the day before the 10th, so it was after staff's
- 9 direction.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Are we fine?
- 11 MEMBER JONES: I'd just like to add just one
- 12 thing, Mr. Chairman, if you'll bear with me.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Excuse me. Just let
- 14 me check.
- 15 Are we okay?
- 16 MEMBER EATON: Yes. I just wanted to make
- 17 sure that we had the complete record just basically.
- MS. TOBIAS: I think what we want to do is
- 19 read --
- 20 MEMBER EATON: And read into --
- 21 MS. TOBIAS: -- those into the record at
- 22 whatever point you think it's appropriate, Mr. Chair.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Go ahead --
- 24 MEMBER EATON: Perhaps if we could take --
- 25 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: -- Mr. Jones.
- 26 MEMBER EATON: A break or something, we

- 1 could read them in at that time.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Yeah, we are going to
- 3 break here in just a minute.
- 4 MEMBER JONES: Just real quickly. I read
- 5 our proposed resolution for the consideration of
- 6 adoption.
- 7 MS. TOBIAS: Do you want to finish with the
- 8 member of the public, or did you close the hearing?
- 9 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Not yet, but we'll let
- 10 him go ahead and speak.
- 11 MR. MACHI: Okay. As far as what I was
- 12 talking about, I have the agenda for the special
- 13 council meeting here and the listing, and I'd like to
- 14 enter that into the record as being the "Review and
- 15 Approval of the Proposed Negative Declaration and
- 16 Required Findings to Approve Revisions to Mitigations."
- 17 That's what I was talking about as far as what was
- 18 being negotiated with the applicants at the time after
- 19 the public hearing was closed.
- 20 MEMBER JONES: And that ran concurrently
- 21 with the conditional use permit?
- MR. MACHI: Yes.
- 23 MS. TOBIAS: And I believe the document he's
- 24 referring to is in the RSI, so that is part of the
- 25 adminstrative record.
- 26 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: You can leave it with

- 1 us, and we'll make sure.
- 2 MR. SCHAUB: He has his own copy, and it's
- 3 highlighted. Is that appropriate?
- 4 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: No. We've got that in
- 5 the record.
- 6 MS. TOBIAS: If he'd like to bring it up
- 7 here, I'll look at it, but my understanding it's the
- 8 findings that are made by the City of Arcata in the
- 9 adoption of their and neg-dec and the C of P, so I
- 10 think it's part of the -- this is page 13 he's
- 11 referring to that's in the RSI. So we have this as
- 12 part of the record.
- 13 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman.
- 14 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Mr. Jones.
- 15 MEMBER JONES: On Mr. Eaton's -- following
- 16 upon Mr. Eaton's request that things be entered into
- 17 the record and while we do enter all our ex partes --
- 18 MEMBER EATON: And read into the record,
- 19 because it's an evidentiary kind of thing. I think
- 20 that's the point counsel tried to make. I just want to
- 21 make sure it's read in the record so it looks like
- 22 there was -- at least the information was, you know,
- 23 presented and presented and then part of deliberated
- 24 process.
- 25 MEMBER JONES: Then at that time when we
- 26 read those in, I want to read in -- because of our

- 1 proposed resolution to consider this addendum, there's
- 2 language that refers to competitive and revengeful
- 3 reasons and things like that. I want to read into the
- 4 document the letters I received from Humboldt County,
- 5 from Supervisor Dixon, Woolley, and John Murray, which
- 6 also go to an adversarial relationship with the
- 7 operator for a number of years. I mean, if it's
- 8 revengeful, it's on both sides of this issue, and I
- 9 don't particularly enjoy reading an addendum that sets
- 10 up a lawsuit.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. What we're
- 12 going to do now is we're going to break. We're going
- 13 to in recess into a closed session to discuss some
- 14 litigation, and we'll be back at 2:00 o'clock.
- I know you all are anxious to go home. So
- 16 are we, but we have lawyers scheduled actually for 15
- 17 minutes ago. So we've got to break now.
- We'll see you at 2:00 o'clock.
- 19 (Lunch break.)

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1 AFTERNOON SESSION

- 2 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. We're back.
- 3 Where were we, now? I guess we need to -- first we
- 4 need to get these -- first I guess I need to close the
- 5 public testimony, so officially we're going to close
- 6 the public testimony, and thus the public hearing
- 7 portion of this particular item.
- Now, we need to talk to general counsel.
- 9 Ms. Tobias, we need to talk to you about
- 10 these documents that we have received. I think that
- 11 instead of taking the time to read them verbatim into
- 12 the record, I think we all can agree that we have read
- 13 them and understand them and make them a part of the
- 14 record; is that correct?
- MS. TOBIAS: That would be correct. If you
- 16 would just each -- I think for an overabundance of
- 17 caution, if each of you could say that you have read
- 18 them and that you do understand the information
- 19 contained in them, I think that would be sufficient.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Mr. Frazee.
- 21 MEMBER FRAZEE: Yes. Could we identify
- 22 which documents?
- 23 MS. TOBIAS: Sure. The documents that we're
- 24 talking about is our letter dated September 17th, 1998,
- in the North Coast Air Quality Management District, an
- 26 addendum -- let me say it the other way -- there's also

- 1 a chart introduced by Norcal that's entitled, "Humboldt
- 2 County Temporary Transfer Station Air Quality
- 3 Impacts-Particulate Emissions," and then an addendum to
- 4 the District comments of September 16th, which is dated
- on September 17th, which is a comment on that colored
- 6 chart that I just referred to.
- 7 MEMBER FRAZEE: And then additionally,
- 8 there's a Geoff Neely letter of September 16th, with an
- 9 accompanying letter from the Department of Fish and
- 10 Game?
- MS. TOBIAS: Okay. Thank you. And both
- 12 their North Coast letters are from Wayne Morgan.
- 13 MEMBER FRAZEE: So I have all those, have
- 14 read them.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: And understand them?
- 16 MEMBER FRAZEE: And understand them.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: I, too, have read them
- 18 and understand them.
- 19 MEMBER JONES: I have read them and
- 20 understand them.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Mr. Eaton?
- 22 MEMBER EATON: I've received and read them
- 23 and understand them as well.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay.
- MS. TOBIAS: Thank you.
- 26 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Now, we're going to

- 1 start with Board members' comments.
- 2 Mr. Jones.
- 3 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman, on that same
- 4 item, I just wanted to -- an ex parte that I received
- 5 from Supervisor Dixon, John Woolley, and the CEO
- 6 John Murray. They were in the ex parte file. They all
- 7 talk about a relationship with Norcal that one letter
- 8 says, "During my tenure at Norcal through City Garbage
- 9 has sued, threatened, and bullied this county. The
- 10 Humboldt County Waste Management Authority was formed
- 11 to allow local governments to own and control the
- 12 essential solid waste facilities in Humboldt County.
- 13 Eight proposals from private industries were received.
- 14 City Garbage choose not to submit a proposal. Instead
- 15 they're threatening lawsuits, lobbying against our
- 16 endeavor every step of the way in order to force us to
- 17 utilize their facility.
- 18 "We have followed the rules and regulations
- 19 and are currently under construction so that we can be
- 20 free of depending upon City Garbage and their
- 21 facilities.
- 22 "I'd urge you to support our permit
- 23 application."
- Woolley's I think everybody got, and then
- one from John Murray, and I don't know if you each got
- 26 the same letters. Murray talks for working for

- 1 Humboldt County for 25 years, 24 of them in the public
- 2 works department, that he was present when the City
- 3 Garbage was purchased by Norcal.
- 4 "Due to difficulties dealing with the City
- 5 Garbage and constant rate increases, the cities
- 6 complain that they should have a voice in disposal and
- 7 cost negotiations. I was one of the first people to
- 8 propose the concept of the JPA. We waited until the
- 9 end City Garbage's landfill franchise to embark on our
- 10 project.
- 11 "City Garbage didn't submit a proposal nor
- 12 did they respond to requests from other proposers to
- 13 become partners in this joint proposal. We have tried
- 14 to arrange an interim agreement, but they want 15 years
- 15 or nothing. They want to keep us under the control.
- 16 Each of the seven entities of the JPA voted unanimously
- 17 to sign a contract with ECDC, and everyone is resolved,
- 18 but we will not sign a long-term agreement with City
- 19 Garbage unless we're ordered to do so by a court.
- 20 We've followed CEQA. We have agreed to about five
- 21 pages of conditions put on our permit by the City of
- 22 Arcata.
- "We have submitted the data that you
- 24 requested and agreed to your conditions. We are
- 25 deserving your support and request to vote in favor."
- The reason I read those letters, and I'll

- 1 give them to the court to add is that part of our
- 2 resolution, that we're hopefully going to work on,
- 3 talks about contentious -- talks about being motivated
- 4 by competitive reasons, public controversy rather than
- 5 environmental reasons and a direct, casual relationship
- 6 between the two projects, and I wanted to make sure
- 7 that we know that those types of relationships that
- 8 breakdown between a company and a jurisdiction are
- 9 usually two sided. I mean, there's usually two pieces
- 10 to a disagreement, not just one, and as I told
- 11 Mr. Dixon -- Supervisor Dixon, who I happen to think is
- 12 a very honorable man. I dealt with him many years ago,
- 13 and I know he's worked pretty hard to come to some
- 14 resolution on this. I was involved in some of those
- 15 discussions a long, long time ago and pretty aware of
- 16 how sides perceive issues, and have had a little bit of
- 17 problem with pieces of this thing, as I made pretty
- 18 clear in about a one-hour briefing with the mayor and
- 19 Supervisor Dixon. But I want them in the record so
- 20 that if one were to draw a conclusion based on whatever
- 21 action is taken, that both sides of this disagreement
- 22 be documented, that there is an adversarial
- 23 relationship from both sides.
- I think that's pretty critical to the
- 25 process.
- MS. TOBIAS: I'd like to put some

- 1 information before the Board and on the record, so if I
- 2 have your indulgence, I'll kind of like to walk through
- 3 this.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Go ahead, Ms. Tobias.
- 5 MS. TOBIAS: Thank you.
- A couple of these are just random points
- 7 addressing issues that came up in the hearing, so I'll
- 8 just run through these, and then a couple are things
- 9 that I'd like to be on the record.
- 10 Early on there was a comment made that the
- 11 lead agency, the City of Arcata, was not here today.
- 12 The City of Arcata is the lead agency for this project.
- 13 I can't recall in the last four and a half years that
- 14 we've ever had a lead agency come to the meetings. I
- 15 just want to make it clear that I don't think that
- 16 that's a normal thing, to have a lead agency appear at
- 17 a responsible agency meeting.
- 18 Also, it sounded like it was suggested that
- 19 the City had asked us to take over the responsibility
- 20 of doing an addendum, and I want to make it clear that
- 21 it was the legal office's suggestion to do an addendum
- 22 so that the Board was very clear about what the exact
- 23 project was before you, and I suggested those reasons,
- 24 and I think George went through them too, and the
- 25 reasons that we were doing the addendum is because
- there was a slightly ambiguous project description.

- 1 There was a negative declaration, but there was also a
- 2 public meeting in which the City basically kind of came
- 3 to terms with the project, and so, basically, I
- 4 don't -- and, in fact, I don't think the City initially
- 5 was interested in the idea of us doing an addendum. So
- 6 I wanted to make it clear the idea of doing an addendum
- 7 came from the staff.
- 8 Second, I want to make clear on the addendum
- 9 that as far as we are concerned, the addendum does not
- 10 make any changes in the project. As I said, it
- 11 clarifies a project description, which was ambiguous,
- 12 and I think that this is a fairly unusual step for a
- 13 response agency to take, but I felt that it was
- 14 necessary to put it before the Board to obtain a clear
- 15 and finite project description.
- 16 And I also would like to say that in any
- 17 case, I think scoping down a project including such
- 18 suggestions -- or including such decisions as deleting
- 19 self-haul, for example, is often considered to be a
- 20 mitigation of potential impacts, which often occurs in
- 21 a city council meeting and would not affect the
- 22 validity of the declaration itself.
- 23 The addendum also clarifies some inartful
- 24 drafting of the project description, including the
- 25 mention of the rail haul, which basically appears that
- 26 that was a -- a potentially future part of this

- 1 project, but not a part of this particular project.
- 2 So, again, I don't see this as a change in the project,
- 3 But a clarification of what is analyzed in the negative
- 4 declaration.
- 5 There's also been an attempt to characterize
- 6 the air quality information as new information. The
- 7 standard for new information in guidelines
- 8 Section 15162, little A, 3, for triggering an new
- 9 EIR -- and I'd like to make sure that this is read into
- 10 the record -- is "New information of substantial
- 11 importance, which was not known and could not have been
- 12 known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the
- 13 time the negative declaration was adopted."
- 14 The truck traffic was always a part of this
- 15 project, and I think that it could be basically
- 16 suggested, if you will, that this air quality
- 17 information that was presented to this responsible
- 18 agency should have most appropriately been presented to
- 19 the lead agency at the time they made a decision so
- 20 that they could deal with it at that time.
- 21 As far as the substantial evidence in the
- 22 record as to air quality, it was suggested that there
- 23 was no information on the other side of the record,
- 24 that all the information that has been provided today
- 25 is the only substantial evidence in the record before
- 26 you, but I do want to make clear, the Air Quality

- 1 Management District has reviewed this information.
- 2 They reviewed it, the project, at the time that the
- 3 negative declaration was completed. They reviewed the
- 4 information that was submitted earlier in the week to
- 5 Board members, submitted that September 17th letter,
- 6 and then just last night analyzed the color chart,
- 7 which I think is entitled, "Particulate Emissions,"
- 8 which was information contributed at the last minute,
- 9 and that we as a responsible agency can rely on
- 10 District staff as our experts.
- 11 In addition to that, it was also mentioned
- 12 that 15064-H, I think, basically says that when there's
- 13 a disagreement among experts that the lead agency must
- 14 do an EIR. This particular section is actually
- 15 directed towards lead agencies, and it pertains to the
- 16 identification of the significance of a particular
- 17 impact when the agency is doing an EIR. So I don't
- 18 think that it's particularly applicable to the
- 19 responsible agency, which is what we're doing at this
- 20 time.
- 21 Then I'd last like to bring up information
- 22 on the conformance finding clarification and clarify
- the meaning of PRC, Section 5001.
- I believe, as Mr. Sweetser stated, that in
- 25 order to comply with this statue on conformance
- 26 findings, the facility permit and RSI should prohibit

- 1 any diversion at the facility. In fact, the statute by
- 2 its own terms would allow this facility to have up to
- 3 5 percent recovery without being subject to its
- 4 provisions.
- 5 And I think that's the end of what I would
- 6 offer on that. Let me see if there's anything else.
- 7 I think that the Board today, if it decides
- 8 to adopt this addendum, is acting with an abundance of
- 9 caution by being very clear about the scope of the
- 10 project that they're approving.
- 11 Thank you.
- 12 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Thank you, Ms. Tobias.
- Now statements from Board members.
- 14 MEMBER EATON: I'm just trying to find my
- 15 notes, so if someone else wants to go ahead, that would
- 16 be great.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Are you ready?
- 18 MEMBER FRAZEE: Okay. Certainly.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Mr. Frazee.
- 20 MEMBER FRAZEE: Board members and public,
- 21 it's clear that there is a way of avoiding all of this
- 22 problem that we're faced with today, and that's for the
- 23 people of Humboldt County to stop producing garbage,
- 24 and that would solve our problems, and that's not going
- 25 to be the case, although Humboldt County has done an
- 26 exemplary job of recycling, of reducing their output of

- 1 garbage, but the fact is, they're still even with
- 2 achieving the goals. They're still going to be
- 3 50 percent of what there was in 1990 in the way of
- 4 needs for disposal. So we're faced with that fact of
- 5 having to find some means of disposing of that amount
- 6 of solid waste.
- 7 The issue that comes before us that --
- 8 really the crux of the issue is the adequacy of the
- 9 EIR, and I'd just like to remind everyone that CEQA
- 10 covers a lot of areas besides air quality, and, in
- 11 fact, land use and conversion of land is far more
- 12 important in my mind than the air quality aspects of a
- 13 particular permit. In this case you have a site that,
- 14 I guess, could be classified as already degraded. It's
- 15 already in an industrial use, so it already has truck
- 16 traffic, already does not have any floor existing on it
- 17 except maybe the aforementioned rats.
- 18 So those issues, I think, are all -- all can
- 19 be set aside. So that brings us only to the air
- 20 quality argument.
- 21 I listened with a great deal of attention to
- 22 the case brought by Norcal and by their experts, and I
- 23 certainly take some credence and would not question the
- 24 ability of their experts to analyze this situation, but
- 25 I think that a lot was left unsaid in their analysis.
- 26 I think it was a one-sided analysis. I can think --

- 1 and I tried to raise the issue at the time -- that
- 2 there are a great many other offsets that take place.
- 3 They only analyze it from the new generation of
- 4 pollutants and did not take into consideration that the
- 5 space occupied by North Coast Hardwoods obviously
- 6 generated a fair amount of particulate matter. The
- 7 trucks involved with North Coast Hardwoods, which
- 8 apparently if this site is going to be used for some
- 9 other purpose will not be operating, the offset of not
- 10 going to the existing landfill, and all those
- 11 considerations really bring into question the
- 12 objectiveness of the report that was produced, and
- 13 given to us really here at the last minute. That
- 14 information should have been presented to the local
- 15 agency at the time they held their public hearings on
- 16 the EIR. If it was important, that was the appropriate
- 17 time to do it, and I think that not only is the
- 18 motivation questionable, but the validity of the
- 19 information, I would have to take into consideration.
- I am prepared to vote for the addendum. I
- 21 think that's appropriate. As counsel has indicated, it
- 22 is an appropriate step for this Board to take, and
- 23 my -- I do have some lack of comfort level with some of
- 24 the wording of the addendum, and I think we'll hear
- 25 more of that from Board Member Jones, and I think that
- 26 it says far more than is necessary, and perhaps if we

- 1 could work on that aspect of it, I would be prepared
- 2 then to move adoption of the addendum.
- 3 That completes my --
- 4 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Thank you.
- 5 Mr. Eaton, are you ready, or Mr. Jones?
- 6 MEMBER EATON: First off, I would like to
- 7 thank each and every one of the individuals who took
- 8 the time to come down here to Sacramento and/or to
- 9 write or phone. You find, having been my short term on
- 10 the Board, that rarely do you see such an effort to
- 11 kind of provide information to a decision making body,
- 12 and while that may provide little consolation in terms
- 13 of the ultimate vote, I think the one thing that you
- 14 should not take away from here is the fact that this
- 15 kind of information is absolutely essential to the
- 16 decision making process in that the information that
- 17 was provided, I think, only goes to point out that how
- 18 much time and effort needs to be devoted to issues
- 19 effecting any community.
- 20 And having said that, I think there's a
- 21 couple of other things that I'd like to kind of say
- 22 today just about pretty much the process. This is
- 23 probably the toughest vote that I've had to take thus
- 24 far, and I don't shy away from it. What I do believe,
- 25 however, is that when I first came to this Board, one
- of the things that impressed me the most was how

- 1 willing an agency such as this was willing to work with
- 2 the constituents who do business with this Board, and I
- 3 think four the first five or six times that I heard it,
- 4 I said, "Sure. Sure. I don't understand what
- 5 you mean," and then I saw the workshops in place. I
- 6 saw the fact that the staff took extra time to go and
- 7 work with individuals who may not have got it right the
- 8 first time, but the ultimate goal, and never to lose
- 9 site of, as I soon learned, was the fact that you try
- 10 to protect the public, and at the same time you try and
- 11 do what you believe is right when casting a vote.
- 12 And along those lines I think a couple of
- 13 weeks ago or a week ago -- I can't remember. I've been
- 14 in so many cities since that last time -- is we came
- $15\,$ $\,$ here, and we did do just as we had done with any other
- 16 entity, public or private, and that was to give them
- 17 some direction and to give staff some direction with
- 18 regard to what we thought would meet our requirements,
- 19 namely the five things that were listed: The location,
- 20 clarifying the project description, identifying the
- 21 assessor's parcel, providing documentation of transport
- 22 by truck, a plan to work with self-haul as well as
- 23 limiting the CEQA analysis only for this particular
- 24 project. I think when you make those kinds of
- 25 commitments, that if an entity is willing to meet the
- 26 those standards, that you ought not to try and change

- 1 the rules of the game at a another time because
- 2 otherwise it's a neverending game, and I think at some
- 3 point the integrity of the process has to withstand all
- 4 the other kinds of onslaughts that can take place.
- 5 And for that reason, I, too, would share
- 6 Mr. Frazee's opinion that addendum should be adopted.
- 7 I also believe that, while I would like to
- 8 forewarn that this Board will not be hesitant to look
- 9 behind documents that come before, whether it be CEQA
- 10 or any other documents, that in this case we have to be
- 11 very, very careful about what slippery slope you're
- 12 going down and looking behind documents for whatever
- 13 reason they might be, because you, too, could be on the
- 14 other side of that. I have friends on both sides,
- 15 probably more friends on the side of the opponents than
- 16 the proponents, but I feel in good conscious that I
- 17 have given the testimony, the legal opinions that we've
- 18 received publicly here from our counsel, which I
- 19 greatly appreciate, that I, too, would recommend the
- 20 adoption of the addendum at this time.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Mr. Jones.
- 22 MEMBER JONES: This is -- this obviously has
- 23 been a tough one for me. I've spent a lot of time with
- 24 the people from Humboldt talking about this issue. One
- of my biggest issues was the self-haul issue, and the
- 26 fact that the project had changed and needed to be

- 1 addressed.
- 2 I also find that sitting on this Board we
- 3 learn about CEQA processes and things like that, even
- 4 though I've lived through them for an awful lot of
- 5 years. It seems like the attorneys always come up with
- 6 what is legal, what needs to be done or doesn't need to
- 7 be done, what you have an option to look at, waht you
- 8 don't have an option to look at.
- 9 Jess Huff used to say, "We have a very small
- 10 piece that we deal with here, and we have to make sure
- 11 that we stay within that area."
- 12 You know, it is clear to me that the public
- 13 health and safety is our number one priority, and I
- 14 voiced that opinion to the elected officials from
- 15 Humboldt County, and we talked about the number
- 16 conversions and the fact that they were wrong, and
- 17 they're working on trying to make sure that that part
- 18 is put place.
- 19 Mr. Eaton said we gave direction at this
- 20 Board two weeks ago, or whatever it was, to make sure
- 21 to deal with those issues. We didn't want to see this
- 22 until those things were dealt with. I turn this around
- 23 a little bit to looking at projects that have gone
- 24 through the local process, and in some cases have taken
- 25 eight and ten years going through the local process,
- 26 where permits have, because of conditional use permits,

- because of whatever, have taken eight years, six years.
- 2 Some of those were Norcal's. Some of those were other
- 3 people's. I think Eagle Mountain is only working on
- 4 about its 12th year, and that's still hung up in the
- 5 EIR, or how a judge is interpreting that EIR, and when
- 6 we have those kinds of items in front of us, and the
- 7 people come forward and they've had a chance to voice
- 8 their opinion at the local level, and they have those
- 9 local decision makers who have either changed the
- 10 project or voted one way or another after hearing all
- 11 that public testimony, and then its last step is here,
- 12 and those same people that have been part of the
- 13 process, even though they never heard the answer they
- 14 wanted, come in front of us and say, you know, "We
- 15 didn't like the we heard, so we want to hear again." I
- 16 always object to that. That is something I dismiss in
- 17 a heartbeat, because it's not fair to the local
- 18 process. The local process, those local decision
- 19 makers have made their choices and a permit gets in
- 20 front of us, and I think that's how I view looking
- 21 behind CEQA. You know, at some point has the local
- 22 decision makers had the opportunity to look at the
- 23 evidence? And the air quality issues that came up
- 24 today -- or came up two weeks ago, have been addressed
- 25 by the local Air Quality District. They were brought
- 26 up as part of the local CEQA, or the local negative

- 1 dec, in the hearing -- to what extent, I don't know. I
- 2 wasn't there. I don't know. I understand by reading
- 3 the record that our attorney said that it had been
- 4 discussed. So it is a -- the policies that we do hear
- 5 also, I think, have to, you know, kind of cut both ways
- 6 that at some point you have to rely on the local
- 7 process.
- 8 And while I absolutely do not agree with a
- 9 lot of the language in the resolution, I do agree with
- 10 the addendum, and I'm going to -- if a motion is made
- 11 to accept the addendum that will be one motion, because
- 12 we've got to work on the resolution. I believe in
- 13 fairness from documents, and while I think people think
- 14 at it's fair, I think we need to tweak these words to
- 15 not paint a picture that we might not necessarily want
- 16 to paint. I don't know what that's going to take. I'm
- 17 not an attorney -- thank God -- but that's where I'm
- 18 coming from.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Well, I don't have a
- 20 long speech because I don't ever make long speeches,
- 21 but I just want to thank all of the people who came and
- 22 presented your case to us. I think it's extremely
- 23 helpful for us to be as well informed as we can when we
- 24 do have to make these kinds of difficult decisions.
- 25 There's always some people go away feeling you've lost.
- 26 I don't think you should feel that way. I think our

- 1 democracy serves well to all of us to participate in
- 2 it. I want to thank that. I want to thank the staff
- 3 for their efforts on this. It's been a major
- 4 undertaking for you all. Ms. Nauman is fairly new with
- 5 us. I think you've done an excellent job in trying to
- 6 bring together the document that is something that
- 7 protects the health and safety better. I want to thank
- 8 Katherine for her diligence on this. So we'll move
- 9 forward.
- 10 Do we need to have the resolution ready, or
- 11 do you want to take up the addendum now?
- 12 MS. TOBIAS: I think what you should do is
- 13 take up the addendum; vote on it. If you have comments
- 14 on the resolution, we can do that, and we can basically
- 15 memorialize that and come back in another part of your
- 16 meeting today and come back with that rewording. And
- 17 then you'll want to take up your permit.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: And then after we take
- 19 up the addendum, we'll take up the permit; is that
- 20 right?
- MS. TOBIAS: Yes.
- 22 MEMBER FRAZEE: Mr. Chairman?
- 23 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Yes.
- 24 MEMBER FRAZEE: The addendum, adoption of
- 25 the addendum is in the form of a resolution.
- 26 MS. TOBIAS: What you can do is do a motion

- 1 to basically approve the addendum subject to it. I do
- 2 have some rewording possibilities right now if you'd
- 3 like to look at them and see if --
- 4 MEMBER FRAZEE: Well, I was going to take a
- 5 shot at amending the resolution verbally, but if you
- 6 have something.
- 7 MS. TOBIAS: I have something. These are --
- 8 we have enough copies right now for you, and she can
- 9 basically get more for the back of the room. I
- 10 apologize, but we just basically got these done.
- 11 What I will do is walk through them with
- 12 everybody so that the public can hear. The Board can
- 13 follow me and I'll do it slowly so the public can hear
- 14 it.
- 15 Are you ready? I'm on the second page.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Let me just make it
- 17 clear to the public that we will have copies of this in
- 18 a minute or two for you.
- 19 MEMBER JONES: And it may change some more.
- Who knows.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay.
- MS. TOBIAS: On the second page -- this is
- 23 starting on the third page, I think, as you have it,
- 24 starting with the "whereas" that says, "The whereas to
- 25 decision to offer self-haul service." Are you with me?
- 26 So instead of saying, "The decision to stay

- open or close the facility at City Garbage," it would
- 2 say, "The decision to offer self-haul service at any
- 3 privately operated facility would be driven by many
- 4 reasons." So that's the first change.
- 5 In the next whereas in the fourth line,
- 6 again the replacement of the words, "City Garbage
- 7 closes its transfer station," it would say, "Whether or
- 8 not self-haul facilities are closed on October 1st."
- 9 MEMBER JONES: Wait. Wait. Where are you?
- 10 MS. TOBIAS: I'm in the second whereas on
- 11 page 3.
- 12 MEMBER JONES: I'm sorry. Will you
- 13 repeat --
- MS. TOBIAS: Third line --
- 15 MEMBER JONES: -- the first one?
- MS. TOBIAS: Sorry. Yes.
- 17 MEMBER JONES: Really?
- MS. TOBIAS: Well, these are just my
- 19 suggestions.
- 20 MEMBER JONES: All right.
- 21 MS. TOBIAS: So were you with me on the
- 22 second one, Mr. Jones?
- 23 MEMBER JONES: Yes.
- MS. TOBIAS: Okay. On the third "whereas,"
- on the fifth line down, it says, "City of Eureka unless
- 26 done so for competitive and revengeful reasons among

- 1 all parties concerned, " as opposed -- so it adds the
- words "among all parties concerned."
- 3 And then the fourth whereas on that page
- 4 that deals with air quality issues, I basically add to
- 5 that, and it says, "Concerns over potential air quality
- 6 issues, which could have been and should have been
- 7 raised to the city at their city council meeting for
- 8 consideration, have been raised to the Board, but the
- 9 regional air pollution control officer of the North
- 10 Coast Unified Air Quality Management District has
- 11 adequately addressed these concerns in a letter dated
- 12 September 17th, 1998, finding that the information does
- 13 not change the original finding, that the concerns do
- 14 not rise to a level of significance."
- Now, what I can also do with you, at your
- 16 pleasure, is walk you through the whole resolution and
- 17 basically explain why these provisions are in here, or
- 18 take any comments that you might have, and if you have
- 19 other comments, I'm happy to go back and work on this
- 20 as you continue with your Board agenda and bring them
- 21 back.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: You have additional
- 23 comments from, Mr. Frazee?
- 24 MEMBER FRAZEE: Well, understanding
- 25 Counsel's admonition about the necessity for this being
- 26 a complete document and stating "reasons to their

- 1 ultimate, " I for one would be more comfortable with
- 2 deleting five whereases, and those are the bottom two
- 3 on page 2 and first three on page 3, and you know, I
- 4 can see the need for those in the future, but they just
- 5 seem irrelevant to the purpose at hand, and that's
- 6 adopting the addendum. You know, I'll allow you to
- 7 defend your reasons for having them in there.
- 8 MS. TOBIAS: Without going into closed
- 9 sessions for reasons of litigation, I'd have to say
- 10 that I think that those provisions basically deal with
- 11 the concerns that have been raised with self-haul and
- 12 the concerns of those are a separate project under CEQA
- 13 not related to this project. I could certainly try to
- 14 condense it, but I feel like we still need to address
- 15 that issue. I think the Board as a responsible agency,
- 16 needs to show that they understand that there are
- 17 not -- or there is not at this time substantial
- 18 evidence in the record that shows that there are
- 19 environmental concerns having to do with the provision
- 20 of self-haul in this area that are related to the
- 21 provision or the new project of the transfer station.
- 22 And if you'd like to discuss this some more, I'd really
- 23 rather do it in closed session.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: You all right? You
- 25 want it condensed?
- MEMBER FRAZEE: What?

- 1 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: You want her to try to
- 2 condense?
- 4 on this.
- 5 MEMBER JONES: Actually, I kind of liked
- 6 Mr. Frazee's offer. I was willing -- you know, I was
- 7 trying to work with these things, but I think our
- 8 record's pretty clear if you look at the whole
- 9 document. We talked quite a bit about self-haul. We
- 10 talked about the acknowledgement that the numbers were
- 11 wrong and that they needed to deal with it, and one of
- 12 the conditions in the conditional use permit is that
- 13 they hold a public hearing to discussion the self-haul
- 14 options in that county. You know, determining who said
- 15 who to what in what meeting may establish that the
- 16 self-haul issue came up.
- MS. TOBIAS: Let me see how much I can
- 18 explain. The first one is basically pointing out that
- 19 the City of Arcata, which I think is important -- this
- 20 one's not so much talking about anything of ours, but
- 21 it's talking about the fact that this issue of
- 22 self-haul, as far as the City of Arcata is concerned,
- 23 they were assured -- the question was specifically
- 24 asked and answered that self-haul would continue to be
- 25 available at this site, so the city had no opportunity
- 26 to deal with the fact that later it was announced that

- 1 that would not be available.
- I think that that's partially a concern for
- 3 the city --
- 4 MEMBER JONES: But isn't that why we're
- 5 doing an addendum, because the issue came up, and we
- 6 asked them to do an addendum dealing with the
- 7 self-haul. So I think we've addressed that issue in
- 8 the addendum.
- 9 MS. TOBIAS: The addendum basically offers
- 10 information about where the self-haul will do. It does
- 11 not change the project at all. I think it's mostly for
- 12 purposes of CEQA that we're basically trying to deal
- 13 with when information was offered and what kind of
- 14 information was offered at the time.
- The second whereas is linked to the first
- 16 whereas, and that merely says that that information
- 17 came after the city counsel meeting that they didn't
- 18 have the opportunity to address this.
- The third one --
- 20 MEMBER FRAZEE: On that point, if I could,
- 21 you say that that point came up after the city counsel
- 22 meeting. Wasn't that a decision of the city council to
- 23 eliminate self-haul? Wasn't that one of the issues
- 24 that was raised?
- MS. TOBIAS: They did decide to eliminate
- 26 self-haul --

- 1 MEMBER FRAZEE: So wasn't that issue debated
- 2 at the city council.
- MS. TOBIAS: Yes, it was. And in the
- 4 minutes, what it basically does is -- and the reason
- 5 that I've repeated it here, is that one of the council
- 6 people specifically asked before they eliminated the
- 7 self-haul whether or not self-haul would continue to be
- 8 had available at that site in the city of Eureka, and
- 9 the owner of the site assured her that it would be
- 10 available. So when they made that decision, they were
- 11 on the basis that self-haul would be available at that
- 12 site, and that's what I'm basically establishing with
- 13 those whereases.
- 14 The third one is basically trying to put
- 15 forward the finding, if you will, that the -- that
- 16 there's not an environmental basis or a direct causal
- 17 relationship between the two projects, and that's
- 18 really what the other -- those three go to, is trying
- 19 to show that there's a different motivation for closing
- 20 the self-haul or the threat or the possibility of
- 21 self-haul not being available, that the Authority which
- 22 has the overall responsibility for waste disposal in
- 23 this county is going to address this issue regardless
- of whether the self-haul is opened or closed.
- 25 And then the last one of the ones you're
- 26 talking about is really the important one, I guess

- 1 you'd say, for saying that there's not a reasonably
- 2 foreseeable consequence that the provision of the
- 3 transfer station the city of Arcata would necessarily
- 4 cause the closure of a self-haul facility, and that we
- 5 don't have -- that a response agency doesn't have to
- 6 address the reasons of competition as opposed to where
- 7 there's a true relationship between the two projects
- 8 and an environmental -- potential environmental impact.
- 9 MEMBER JONES: You know, when you go to the
- 10 whereas at the top of the page, which Mr. Frazee had
- 11 suggested we take out, I strongly suggest we take it
- 12 out because we've made an assumption that it can only
- 13 be one of a couple of different reasons, competitive
- 14 reasons, public controversy, rather than environmental
- 15 reasons, and I think it's important that people
- 16 understand that it takes a certain amount of flow to
- 17 run a facility. You know, I mean, if you have a
- 18 facility that costs \$1 million and you only get one ton
- 19 of garbage in, then you've got to charge \$1 million,
- 20 because that's the cost to operate. So I think we make
- 21 an assumption that we don't have -- you know, that we
- 22 don't need to make here, because it could be for
- 23 reasons other than these, but it could be the fact that
- 24 they can't afford to keep it open without the flow of
- 25 garbage. I don't want to presume that we know what's
- 26 in their head. You know, listing two of the potentials

- 1 and not had listing all of them doesn't make any sense
- 2 to me.
- I agree with Mr. Frazee. As far as I'm
- 4 concerned, I don't think we -- I don't care if we have
- 5 to go into closed session to hammer this thing out or
- 6 what we have to do, but, you know, we're making some
- 7 assumptions that I'm not sure that we're equipped to
- 8 make..
- 9 MR. CHANDLER: Perhaps from my perspective,
- 10 what I'd like to kick around a little bit, do you want
- 11 to consider taking up a vote on the addendum, 'cause if
- 12 there is support for the addendum, then I think what
- 13 you're getting is the best advice you can get from your
- 14 counsel as to what tools you want in to support that
- 15 addendum with when it comes to the supporting
- 16 documentation and the resolution. As you darn well
- 17 know, this resolution's going to read entirely
- 18 differently if we choose as a Board to not support this
- 19 addendum. And so maybe what we need to deal first with
- 20 is, what is threshold position of the Board on the
- 21 addendum, and then we can craft the resolution to put
- 22 ourselves in the strongest position that we feel we
- 23 need to be in around the addendum.
- I feel like on one hand we we're trying to
- 25 take a tact, potentially, to support the addendum, and
- 26 then water down our arguments and the resolution around

- 1 why -- what was the foundation for that decision, and
- 2 perhaps that does need to be discussed in closed
- 3 session around, have we go too far, or have we used the
- 4 wrong language? But I think we have to try to put
- 5 oursevles in the strongest position, whichever way we
- 6 choose to go on the addendum.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Without taking a
- 8 formal vote, I think we've pretty well indicated --
- 9 three Board members have already indicated that they
- 10 would support the addendum. I'm going to support the
- 11 addendum if we could get the resolution straightened
- 12 out.
- MS. TOBIAS: What I could see doing is
- 14 taking out the first two whereases that you talked
- 15 about. Those are basically public record anyway. It's
- 16 just reiterating the minutes of the meeting and other
- 17 information about when the information was revealed on
- 18 the self-haul is a matter of record. So we can take
- 19 those out.
- 20 The whereas that talks about the Authority
- 21 and what they're going to do, I would like that to stay
- 22 in, although I have a letter from the Authority that
- 23 says that, so I think it makes it a more complete
- $24\,$ finding for if Board that it's in there, but I do have
- 25 a letter that already promises to do that.
- As for the other two, then, I think that it

- 1 would be sufficient to leave the last one in. I think
- 2 the one before -- it's so hard when these things are
- 3 not numbered, but this is the way we do our
- 4 resolutions -- the first one on page 3, which is
- 5 talking about the fact that it's driven by many
- 6 reasons, I think is actually summed up in the third one
- 7 on that page that basically says that there's not a
- 8 causal relationship, that it's not a reasonably
- 9 foreseeable consequence, et cetera. So if you would
- 10 like to leave in the one that has the Authority
- 11 promising to hold the hearing and the one that I think
- 12 basically wraps up, you know, what my reasons are for
- 13 that, how would that be?
- 14 MEMBER FRAZEE: I would agree with that, but
- 15 I'm still troubled by the sentence that reads, "Unless
- done so for competitive and revengeful reasons." I'm
- 17 just troubled by that phrasing.
- MS. TOBIAS: I can try to work on that
- 19 phrase, but do you have a suggestion?
- 20 MEMBER EATON: Perhaps I can try to do it
- 21 procedurally here.
- In echoing the chairman's comments, if I
- 23 hear him correctly is that, one, procedurely we take up
- 24 the addendum, just the addendum, not the whereases, but
- I have an addendum here dated September 14th, 1998,
- 26 state clearinghouse number 98052077. We vote on that.

- 1 That's just a clear addendum, and then perhaps recess
- 2 the hearing so that those who are concerned with
- 3 regards to the resolution, if there be a resolution,
- 4 and I don't, you know, say one way or the other, can
- 5 work on some language, we can then continue on our
- 6 other regular Board business with the other agenda
- 7 items, and then when there's time to think about it,
- 8 both Counsel and others can be brought back the
- 9 resolution for further review today and either be voted
- 10 up or down or amended at this point, and therefore we
- 11 can kind of continue our business.
- 12 I think that procedure gives us the
- 13 advantage of a couple of things. First and foremost,
- 14 we're not trying to do things in a fashion which, one,
- 15 we may later regret. I think only too clear that the
- 16 record that we had before us in trying to decide this
- 17 issue was somewhat done in haste to some degree, and
- 18 therefore, caused us problems as decision makers.
- So perhaps if we just agree with the
- 20 language of the addendum, we adopt that, and then allow
- 21 those to perhaps work on some language of resolution to
- 22 bring this back to us in a short time and then see if
- 23 that meets with our approval.
- Is that procedurally -- we would have two
- 25 procedures --
- 26 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: I think procedurally,

- 1 Mr. Frazee -- I think Mr. Frazee would like to get this
- 2 resolution done.
- 3 MEMBER EATON: That's fine.
- 4 MEMBER FRAZEE: Let me say, I think
- 5 procedurally it's highly irregular to adopt a title
- 6 without the body of the text of the resolution. I know
- 7 it's done. We do it. We modify them, and we give
- 8 instructions on modifying them, but just to adopt the
- 9 title alone.
- 10 So let me take a run at this that we adopt
- 11 resolution 98316 with the exception of those
- 12 paragraphs -- the last two paragraphs on page 2 and the
- 13 first three on page 3, with the understanding that
- 14 those particular paragraphs, and those alone, will be
- 15 modified to suit the concerns of the Board.
- So that's gives us the text, the body, the
- 17 adoption of the addendum and still leaves some blanks
- 18 to be filled in.
- MS. TOBIAS: I think that's okay. I also,
- 20 as I say, I can take out -- of the five we're talking
- 21 about, I'm willing to take out the first three, leave
- 22 in four and five and modify and look at modifying the
- 23 words "competitive and revengeful reasons."
- 24 MEMBER FRAZEE: Well, that would make me
- happy, too.
- MS. TOBIAS: That's what we're here for.

- 1 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: So you were going
- 2 to --
- MS. TOBIAS: That's acceptable to me.
- 4 MEMBER EATON: I think, Mr. Frazee, that
- 5 that's probably the better way to go.
- 6 MEMBER FRAZEE: Get as much of it as we can,
- 7 and then --
- 8 MEMBER EATON: You suggested you want to
- 9 fill in the blanks later?
- 10 MEMBER FRAZEE: -- with the understanding of
- 11 just the modification of --
- MS. TOBIAS: That language.
- 13 MEMBER FRAZEE: -- on four and five.
- 14 MS. TOBIAS: I would suggest that four stay
- 15 in as is --
- MEMBER FRAZEE: Okay.
- MS. TOBIAS: -- because that's really the
- 18 one just talking about what the Authority's --
- 19 MEMBER FRAZEE: Take out three and five --
- 20 MS. TOBIAS: I'm talking about --
- 21 MEMBER FRAZEE: -- three and modify five.
- 22 MS. TOBIAS: I'm talking about the bottom of
- 23 page 2, the last two whereases.
- MEMBER FRAZEE: Okay. One, two, and
- 25 three --
- 26 MS. TOBIAS: One, two, and three. The

- 1 fourth --
- 2 MEMBER FRAZEE: -- and modify five.
- 3 MS. TOBIAS: -- one would stay in as is, and
- 4 five I will attempt to modify that wording, "competitve
- 5 and revengeful, " but I may come back to you and tell
- 6 you that I need that, and I'd bring that back for your
- 7 consideration today.
- 8 MEMBER FRAZEE: So then my --
- 9 MEMBER EATON: Nonenvironmental sounds like
- 10 a good, short term for eliminating those.
- 11 MS. TOBIAS: I'll take that under
- 12 consideration, Mr. Eaton.
- 13 MEMBER FRAZEE: My motion then would be to
- 14 adopt Resolution 98316 as presented in a document that
- 15 I now have identified as Resolution 98316, Agenda
- 16 Item 11, September 17th, Numbered 2, because we had an
- 17 earlier version of it, and with the understanding then
- 18 that the bottom two paragraphs on page 2 --
- 19 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Maybe if it would help
- 20 you, I went through and numbered these paragraphs. It
- 21 would be paragraph 12, 13, 14 would be deleted --
- 22 MEMBER FRAZEE: Yes.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: -- and paragraph 15
- 24 would stay in, and 16 would be modified.
- 25 MEMBER FRAZEE: Okay. That's my motion.
- 26 MS. TOBIAS: Also, I have been informed that

- 1 the copies are on the back table at this time.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Copies are back
- 3 there (indicating).
- I will second your motion, Mr. Frazee.
- 5 Are you clear on the motion.
- 6 THE SECRETARY: Sure am.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Is everybody clear on
- 8 the motion?
- 9 On my numbering system it is 12 and 13 and
- 10 14.
- 11 MEMBER EATON: Right, got you.
- 12 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. It's been moved
- 13 and seconded that we adopt Resolution 98316 of
- 14 September 17th, second version with the deletion of
- 15 paragraphs 12, 13, 14 and a modification to paragraph
- 16 16.
- 17 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman, can I ask a
- 18 question?
- 19 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Certainly.
- 20 MR. JONES: If this comes back and we're
- 21 still not satisfied, what's your next step?
- MS. TOBIAS: Fire counsel.
- MEMBER JONES: Fire counsel, she said.
- Okay.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: We'll get our public
- 26 affairs person.

- 1 MEMBER EATON: I also believe in giving the
- 2 Board an additional option. The other option would be
- 3 for you to go to law school.
- 4 MEMBER JONES: That's not an option.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. It's been moved
- 6 and seconded. Will the secretary call the roll?
- 7 THE SECRETARY: Board Member Eaton.
- 8 MEMBER EATON: Aye.
- 9 THE SECRETARY: Frazee.
- 10 MEMBER FRAZEE: Aye.
- 11 THE SECRETARY: Jones.
- 12 MEMBER JONES: Aye.
- 13 THE SECRETARY: Chairman Penington.
- 14 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Aye.
- 15 That motion carries.
- Do we want to take up the matter of the
- 17 permit now, or do you want to wait until they come
- 18 back?
- 19 MEMBER FRAZEE: Take the permit now.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Take the permit now.
- 21 Okay.
- I'll entertain a motion on the permit.
- 23 MEMBER FRAZEE: Mr. Chairman, I would move
- 24 the adoption of Resolution 98317, the approval of a new
- 25 solid waste permit for Humboldt County Waste Management
- 26 Authority, transfer station, Humboldt County.

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1 MEMBER EATON: I'll second the motion.
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- 2 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: It's been moved and
- 3 seconded to adopt Resolution 98317. Would the
- 4 secretary call the roll?
- 5 MEMBER FRAZEE: I just --
- 6 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Certainly.
- 7 MEMBER FRAZEE: -- under discussion on this
- 8 item, Mr. Chairman, I think other members of the Board
- 9 have said this is not an easy decision to make. What
- 10 weighs on my mind, and what triggered my decision was
- 11 the fact that the alternative was to find some way of
- 12 sending this back or to go to court and sue and force a
- 13 new EIR, and I'm wondering what would be achieved by
- 14 that, because it gets back to what I mentioned before,
- only the air quality issue, and what can you do to
- 16 mitigate the air quality aspects of this project? And
- 17 so all you do is go through 18 months or two years of
- 18 an exercise and spending a lot of money, a lot of
- 19 taxpayers money developing a new EIR that comes to the
- 20 very same conclusion. The fact that they're using
- 21 trucks for a back haul is already a mitigation in
- 22 itself, versus one-way haul with wood chips and another
- 23 set of trucks hauling trash the other way, so it just
- 24 doesn't look like there are mitigating factors
- 25 available that would prove anything other than this
- 26 full employment act for consultants and attorneys to

- 1 get to the very same conclusion that hopefully we're
- 2 getting to today.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Thank you.
- 4 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman?
- 5 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Yes, Mr. Jones.
- 6 MEMBER JONES: When we had this item the
- 7 first time, we talked about some things that I think
- 8 everybody needs to remember, and that is this Board
- 9 does not issue temporary solid waste facility permits.
- 10 This is a permit that lasts forever. Okay? Now, the
- 11 fact that they've got a conditional use permit,
- 12 supposedly, that says they'll only be there for two
- 13 years, maybe three, does not mean a whole lot, because
- 14 this facility, if the other one does not get sited,
- 15 will be the permanent facility for Humboldt County, and
- 16 you need to know that what we're doing today when we
- 17 take this permit up is basically understanding that
- 18 this could be the permanent facility forever,
- 19 irregardless of the words that have been said, the
- 20 intent of the people. This is very possibly what will
- 21 be the next permanent facility.
- 22 So my question to Katherine is, if this is
- 23 the permanent facility, and if our addendum says that
- 24 any new facility will require a full EIR, and all those
- 25 things, if, in fact, they cannot permit or site a new
- 26 facility and they plan to expand this one, will it fall

- 1 under our conditions that a full EIR be done to deal
- 2 with the issue, or will it just be signed off because
- 3 we'll consider these to be minor changes that have
- 4 occurred over a course of time?
- 5 MS. TOBIAS: In my opinion, the scope of
- 6 this project description is very narrowly defined, so
- 7 any changes at this facility above and beyond the
- 8 number of trucks that we've already specified, the
- 9 amount of tonnage that has been specified, will require
- 10 some kind of an additional environmental review. If
- 11 it's at this site, then it will be by the City of
- 12 Arcata, initially as the lead agency. If it moves to a
- 13 different site it would, of course, be under whosever
- 14 authority is acting as the lead agency at that time,
- 15 but in my opinion there's really not much that can be
- 16 done other than the very current project that wouldn't
- 17 trigger at least a negative declaration or mitigated
- 18 negative in declaration or not an EIR, and that really
- 19 depends on what they do. They can't increase the truck
- 20 traffic out of this facility. They can't change the
- 21 tonnage. They can't do any other kind of method of
- 22 disposal, such as rail haul without another
- 23 discretionary decision, because this is a very limited
- 24 scope, and I'm fairly confident that the parties
- 25 realize that, and I think that's the reason that we
- 26 were doing this addendum is to make sure that that was

- 1 exactly the project description that you are acting on.
- 2 MEMBER JONES: I hope I'm wrong, but I would
- 3 not be surprised if this is the permanent facility in
- 4 Humboldt County just because where they propose the new
- 5 one is going to be pretty tough to permit, a lot
- 6 tougher than this one obviously.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Any further
- 8 discussion? If not, will the secretary call the roll?
- 9 THE SECRETARY: Board member Eaton?
- 10 MEMBER EATON: This resolution was 98317?
- 11 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Correct.
- 12 THE SECRETARY: Yes.
- 13 MEMBER EATON: I believe that my copy, it
- 14 says, "Whereas on September 10th we adopted the
- 15 addendum." I think it's just a typographical error.
- 16 It was forwarded from the last, so under our new
- 17 procedures.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Remember, this is the
- 19 September 10th meeting held on the 17th.
- 20 MEMBER EATON: I've been on airplanes. I
- 21 haven't been on Air Canada like Mr. Frazee and got lost
- 22 like baggage, but I'm pretty close.
- 23 So that would just be corrected as we go on.
- That's all.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: We're asking for your
- 26 vote.

- 1 THE SECRETARY: Is that an aye?
- 2 MEMBER EATON: Aye.
- 3 THE SECRETARY: Board member Frazee.
- 4 MEMBER FRAZEE: Aye.
- 5 THE SECRETARY: Jones.
- 6 MEMBER JONES: Aye.
- 7 THE SECRETARY: Chairman Pennington.
- 8 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Aye. Motion carries.
- 9 We can now move on till Ms. Tobias comes to
- 10 correct the --
- 11 MR. SCHAUB: Thank you very much. On behalf
- 12 of the Authority I want to tell the people that are
- 13 here from Humboldt County that the Authority made a
- 14 commitment that this be temporary transfer station, and
- 15 we're damn well going to keep that commitment.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Very good.
- 17 Ms. Tobias will work on the resolution, and
- 18 we will move on to continuing business, Agenda Item 22,
- 19 Consideration of Approval of proposed ranking criteria
- 20 storing process for two fiscal years, '98 and '99, Tire
- 21 Recycling grant, Local Government Public Education and
- 22 Amnesty Day Grants, and, two, Local Government
- 23 Playground cover and surfacing grant.
- 24 AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 22
- 25 MS. GILDART: Good afternoon Chairman and
- 26 members. I'm Martha Gildart with the Waste Prevention

- 1 And Market Development division, and I'll be presenting
- 2 Item 22, which is a carryover from August 13th to
- 3 August 25th to September 10th to today.
- 4 MEMBER EATON: Sounds like a home run.
- 5 MS. GILDART: The last issue that had come
- 6 from the Board in the 26th meeting was the discussion
- 7 on political subdivision of a local government, and
- 8 there is both change in the criteria, which is
- 9 Number 7, where the wording now records, "Individual
- 10 political subdivision has not received a Board tire
- 11 grant for the fiscal years '95-6, '96-7, and '97-8."
- 12 The definition that we intend to use is not included in
- 13 the criteria, but has been made available, and I will
- 14 read that.
- 15 "Definition of political subdivision in
- 16 Government Code Section 12651-D includes any city, city
- 17 and county, county tax, or assessment district, or
- 18 other legally authorized local government entity with
- 19 jurisdictional boundaries. Labor Code Section 1721
- 20 defines political subdivision as including any county,
- 21 city, district, public housing authority, or public
- 22 agency of the state and assessment or improvement
- 23 district."
- 24 We believe the wording in the criteria and
- 25 that definition should address the issues.
- 26 MEMBER FRAZEE: Including school districts.

- 1 MS. GILDART: Yes.
- 2 The intent in having such a criteria was to
- 3 allow those subdivisions which had not previously
- 4 applied to the Board for grants for playground mats or
- 5 for amnesty days to have slightly higher ranking than
- 6 they perhaps otherwise would.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay.
- 8 MS. GILDART: Are there any other questions
- 9 or issues?
- 10 MEMBER EATON: Mr. Chair, since this was my
- 11 item that I had some concerns about, I first and
- 12 foremost want to thank the staff -- Caren and her staff
- 13 for working with my staff and myself in terms of trying
- 14 to get the best definition we could, as well as kind of
- 15 an understanding. I think we have reached that on this
- 16 matter, and I'm prepared to vote for it.
- I would just like sort of to ask staff if in
- 18 the future there is a way that as we look at some of
- 19 this stuff that we at least try and gain some
- 20 information about perhaps if these applicants are going
- 21 to use other recycled products in their playground,
- 22 whether or not that helps score well. You know, I
- 23 leave that to your discretion, but that's very
- 24 difficult to do because, I'm not so aware of it, but it
- 25 may be a way that we can help get some additional
- 26 information and data -- quantitative data with regard

- 1 playground construction.
- 2 Having said that, I would be happy to move
- 3 Resolution -- and I go back. It's been awhile.
- 4 MS. TRGOVICH: 98-265.
- 5 MEMBER EATON: 98-265.
- 6 MEMBER JONES: I'll second it.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Sorry.
- 8 MEMBER JONES: He moved and I seconded.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Eaton moved and Jones
- 10 seconded. Will the secretary call the roll, please?
- 11 THE SECRETARY: Board Member Eaton.
- 12 MEMBER EATON: Aye.
- 13 THE SECRETARY: Frazee.
- 14 MEMBER FRAZEE: Aye.
- 15 THE SECRETARY: Jones.
- MEMBER JONES: Aye.
- 17 THE SECRETARY: Chairman Pennington.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Aye. Motion carries.
- 19 Folks, there are quite a few people that are
- 20 asking for items to be moved up, and "Try to get me
- 21 through by 5:00 o'clock today." Listen, I'll try my
- 22 very best to get us through here, but if I move one
- 23 person up, that puts somebody else behind. I've got
- 24 people that were here last week who've come back. I've
- 25 got to stick with the agenda, and I apologize that we
- 26 were so long on that first item. I would like to

- 1 accommodate you, but I think in fairness I've got to
- 2 stick with it, because there are other people who been
- 3 here, too.
- 4 Okay. I'm going to move to Item 6, which is
- 5 contract concepts.
- 6 AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 6
- 7 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Now, what we can the
- 8 do here, folks, if we'd like to move this quickly, I
- 9 have one speaker who would like to address us on this
- 10 issue. We can hear what she has to say, and either
- 11 move the item to tomorrow after we've heard, or if
- 12 she'd like to come back tomorrow, or whatever she'd
- 13 like to do. I know she's been sitting here since 9:30
- 14 this morning, as well as everybody else.
- So, I'd like to know if we could just --
- MEMBER EATON: I think that's a good
- 17 suggestion.
- 18 MEMBER JONES: That works for me.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Does that work for
- you, or would you rather come back in the morning?
- 21 Okay. Fine.
- MS. HAYNIE: I'd like to say I have caught
- 23 up on my correspondence this morning. I appreciate
- 24 that opportunity.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: You want to state your
- 26 name for the record.

- 1 MS. HAYNIE: Kristen Haynie. I represent
- 2 the California Association of Professional Scientists,
- 3 CAPS, the Professional Engineers in California
- 4 Government, PECG, P-E-C-G, and the Association of
- 5 California State Attorneys and Administrative Law
- 6 Judges ACSA, A-C-S-A.
- 7 Can I first start by giving this handout for
- 8 the Board? What I am having passed out is just the
- 9 scope section of the classification specs for the
- 10 Integrated Waste Management Specialists and the Waste
- 11 Management Engineer just for your reference, because
- 12 the items I'm going to be discussing on each of these
- 13 contract concepts relates to that, and it may have been
- 14 some time since you've read them, if ever.
- To begin, the reason why I'm here today is
- 16 because CAPS, ACSA, and PECG are all concerned about
- 17 several of the contract concepts, which I will go
- 18 through item by item. However, the reason why we're
- 19 concerned about that in general is because the State
- 20 has an obligation to employ state employees to do the
- 21 work of the Board if that work can be done by state
- 22 employees. Not having enough staff possibly is not a
- 23 reason to contract that work, and it appears, based on
- 24 the limited information that is presented, and maybe as
- 25 there's more information provided on each of these
- 26 contract concepts, maybe some of our objections will

- 1 fall away, but at this point based on the information
- 2 we have, we have some serious concerns that it appears
- 3 this work would be contracted out against the law.
- 4 There was a letter that was submitted to the
- 5 Board on September 4th, I believe was in the
- 6 September 10th Board Agenda Items, and I'd like to call
- 7 your attention to that. Also, the letter is addressed
- 8 from the California Association of Professional
- 9 Scientists and Professional Engineers in California
- 10 Government. We now would like to add ACSA since there
- 11 is one contract concept we have learned of that we are
- 12 concerned about.
- The reason why the contracting out is a
- 14 concern is, this is something that our three
- 15 organizations are taking up very seriously, and we do
- 16 not want to end up in any type of litigation with the
- 17 Board. We've had a good relationship with the Board.
- 18 We don't want to go down that route and don't want to
- 19 end up doing appeals to the State Personnel Board.
- 20 I would also like to refer you to a Supreme
- 21 Court decision that is listed in my letter. It's the
- 22 Professional Engineers in California Government versus
- 23 the Department of Transportation, which, again,
- 24 reinforced the law from the 1930s.
- Moving on to the contract concepts, I'll
- 26 start with Concept Number 2. Okay. Just referring to

- 1 the description paragraph to make it easier for
- 2 everyone here, I have been informed that this type of
- 3 work is done in organics waste diversion, and also
- 4 recommend that state parks should be included. This is
- 5 a contract concept that goes to -- to develop nonprofit
- 6 organizations to develop and implement model waste
- 7 diversion compost programs for tourist destinations and
- 8 attractions. The Department of Parks and Recreation in
- 9 the state of California has many parks and tourist
- 10 attractions, so we see that as an inner agency type of
- 11 work, and even working with private sector tourist
- 12 attractions, we don't see the limitation of state
- 13 employees to work in this capacity and particularly the
- 14 scientists. I will note with each one which group of
- 15 employees we're concerned about.
- Okay. Moving on to Number 3, this --
- 17 "Identify local processing capabilities and markets for
- 18 those materials for the Waste Regional Action Plan."
- 19 Again, we believe that this is scientist work, and it
- 20 goes right into the scope of description for the
- 21 Integrated Waste Management specialist. This expertise
- 22 is currently available with your scientific staff.
- Number 4. This is a continuation of a
- 24 program, and it is unclear why there is a contract
- 25 concept. My information is that two or three people
- 26 currently run the program that are on Waste Board

- 1 staff, and so we are not sure why there would be a
- 2 contracting added. It seems if the contract is
- 3 expanding or is a continuation, it should stay within
- 4 the Board.
- 5 MEMBER JONES: This is Number 4?
- 6 MS. HAYNIE: Number 4.
- 7 Number 5. This is the Calmax (phonetic)
- 8 program. It's a materials exchange program, which I've
- 9 also been informed that scientists are coordinating
- 10 this program today, and so, again, we don't understand
- 11 why it would need to be contracted out.
- 12 Any questions so far? We've had a long day.
- 13 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman, I have a
- 14 question.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Go ahead.
- 16 MEMBER JONES: The people that you
- 17 represent, do they know -- do they feel like these jobs
- 18 should be done in-house?
- MS. HAYNIE: Yes, they do.
- 20 MEMBER JONES: Because that's the same staff
- 21 that's asking us to farm them out. So that's fine. I
- 22 don't have a problem with that.
- 23 MS. HAYNIE: That's part of the mystery to
- 24 us, sir.
- 25 MEMBER JONES: I don't have a problem with
- 26 that. I mean, I'm just going to add up the dollars and

- figure out how much money we've got for grants. So I
- 2 don't have any problem with this.
- 3 MS. HAYNIE: Some of them are managers and
- 4 supervisors and others. I don't know if they're
- 5 necessarily the rank and file.
- 6 MEMBER FRAZEE: Just a question of staff.
- 7 Perhaps the term "contract concepts" is a
- 8 bit of a misnomer here, because I don't see anything in
- 9 here that says that even though they're called a
- 10 contract concept they cannot be done within house; is
- 11 that correct? Just as the Calmax one is currently done
- 12 in the house, there's no reason because this money is
- 13 set aside that that still can't continue to be done
- 14 inhouse.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: I think, for example,
- 16 this Calmax thing, the money that is being set aside in
- 17 the contract concept, mostly is going for the printing
- 18 of the thing; isn't that right?
- MS. SMALL: Yes.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: I mean, it's not going
- 21 it together. It's the printing and mailing of it, and
- 22 I think that's the same thing with the wrap is to buy
- 23 and purchase those wrap award plaques and things like
- 24 that.
- MS. TRGOVICH: Correct. Both of those
- 26 contracts have been in place for many years now. They

- 1 are currently staff that work these programs. There is
- 2 absolutely nothing about these concepts that would
- 3 displace those staff and move them into other areas.
- 4 These have been support contracts, and the Board has
- 5 had these contracts, in the case of wrap, for six
- 6 years, in the case of Calmax for six years.
- 7 MR. CHANDLER: And, Caren, what do the
- 8 dollars go towards?
- 9 MS. TRGOVICH: The dollars go towards
- 10 publication purposes, award. In the case of Calmax, it
- 11 goes to listing information. It's services that we
- 12 currently do not provide and have not provided here at
- 13 the Board.
- MR. CHANDLER: I think to answer
- 15 Mr. Frazee's question, that we would almost have to
- 16 take those on a case-by-case basis, in answer to your
- 17 question directly, because each one may be printing a
- 18 cost associated with maybe other attendant costs
- 19 associated with it, but I think the point you're making
- 20 is, it is a bit perhaps a misnomer to categorize it and
- 21 have them called contract concepts, although that's the
- 22 procedures we've been using here at the Board for
- 23 several years.
- 24 MEMBER FRAZEE: And, for example, in the
- 25 contract concepts, or in the Calmax, much of that goes
- 26 for printing, and is that printing done by a private

- 1 contractor, or by the state printing office.
- 2 MS. SMALL: The way those concepts are set
- 3 up, they are set up to be contracts that are done
- 4 outside the Board. That's why they do come in that
- 5 way, and that particular contract is, if it's done by a
- 6 state printing, it's not considered a contract. It's
- 7 an interagency agreement.
- 8 MEMBER FRAZEE: I see.
- 9 MS. SMALL: It's a little bit different.
- 10 MEMBER FRAZEE: But do we have printers on
- 11 our staff.
- MS. SMALL: No, we do not.
- 13 MEMBER FRAZEE: Or the ability to do
- 14 printing on our staff?
- MS. SMALL: No, we don't have the ability to
- 16 fulfill the requirements of this contract with
- 17 equipment or materials.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay.
- MS. HAYNIE: Again, my comments are based on
- 20 the information that's presented, and it wasn't clear
- 21 if it was to printing costs or personal services. The
- 22 front of the agenda items says personal services
- 23 contracts and others, so that's why it's -- the
- 24 information is not fully developed, which makes it
- 25 difficult.
- 26 MS. SMALL: That may be part of the answer

- 1 to this entire exercise. We're pleased to hear your
- 2 comments. The response on most of it will be that
- 3 these are just concepts that are described in the most
- 4 bare detail, and most of what's being done is services
- 5 with other equipment and other things that we don't
- 6 have at the Board. That's why they're considered
- 7 personal services, but they do have a large procurement
- 8 element to them as well.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: We'd love to hear from
- 10 you, so you can keep going. Let me just tell you that
- 11 you may be a little premature. One of them that you
- 12 brought up is not even recommended for funding, so it's
- 13 not likely that that one's going to happen.
- MS. HAYNIE: I've noticed changes in the
- 15 last three meetings --
- 16 MEMBER EATON: Thank you for pointing that
- 17 out, Mr. Chair.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: So you might want to
- 19 wait until we got through with this and then see what
- 20 was what.
- 21 MS. HAYNIE: We can do it that way if you'd
- 22 like.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: I know you've been
- 24 sitting here all day.
- MS. HAYNIE: If it's more meaningful for me
- 26 to wait as the items are presented, that's fine.

- 1 Whatever would be the most effective way.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: I think that -- Karin?
- 3 MS. FISH: That would definitely, I think,
- 4 help.
- 5 MS. SMALL: I think it might be useful if
- 6 you go ahead and make your comments, because as we have
- 7 been familiar with in the past, things that are not
- 8 necessarily recommended for approval on paper change in
- 9 the course of the discussion, and so it might be useful
- 10 for you to go ahead.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: That might be, but all
- 12 the stuff may change. Why not come and see what we've
- 13 done first. Then tell us whether you think we are
- 14 violating this. I mean, why do we -- why does she want
- 15 to spend her time to tell us about model waste
- 16 diversion program when it's not even recommended for
- 17 funding at this point and may not get funded, and the
- 18 next one may get funded at half of what it is.
- 19 I think you're putting the cart before the
- 20 horse, but if our legal counsel thinks you ought to do
- 21 it, let's go.
- MS. SMALL: Well, what I'm thinking is, I
- 23 know the list of contracts she has problems with, and
- 24 most of them are recommended for funding, because we've
- 25 already received that information.
- 26 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Let's go on.

- 1 MS. HAYNIE: I think I completed Number 5
- 2 and was about to start Number 7.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Seven?
- 4 MEMBER JONES: Seven.
- 5 MS. HAYNIE: Again, we belief this is
- 6 scientist work. I would like to call your attention to
- 7 the last sentence. In the description it says, "The
- 8 model green program would demonstrate that Integrated
- 9 Waste Management is cost-effective and resource
- 10 efficient." Obviously, that's what the Board does.
- 11 Again, this appears to be scientific work that can be
- 12 done inhouse.
- Number 9 is an issue for engineers and
- 14 scientists. I've been told that there used to be the
- 15 equipment required for this program at the Board, and
- 16 it's -- apparently no one seems to be quite sure about
- 17 why the program has not been continued by the
- 18 scientists and engineers, so apparently the equipment
- 19 was available at one point, and if that is the reason
- 20 for contracting out possibly, there's equipment that
- 21 needs to be updated or repaired or something. I'm not
- 22 sure of the reasons. Just like I said, a question.
- 23 Number 11 is also an engineering concern for
- 24 engineers. Again, testing protocols in all of the
- 25 language that's in here I refer to you in the class
- 26 specification is what they do. Okay.

- 1 Number 14, the commercial food best
- 2 management practices partnership. This program has
- 3 been done on a small scale already by the scientists at
- 4 the Board at San Quentin and Pelican Bay State Prisons.
- 5 There apparently is also an interest for a food waste
- 6 program at Sonoma Developmental Services.
- 7 So, again, this is another -- we also raised
- 8 the question about why this would be contracted out.
- 9 It seems it would be state scientist work.
- 10 Moving on to Number 24, is the single ACSA
- 11 attorneys issue. There may be a good reason for this
- 12 legal expertise not being on the Board. It appears
- 13 from the history that is described, that this has been
- 14 something that has been going on for quite some time
- 15 and has gradually gotten larger over the last several
- 16 years, and it appears also that if there is an
- 17 expertise that was needed in 1992 when this contract
- 18 began, and now today this expertise has developed with
- 19 this one person, it seems it would have been more
- 20 forthright to have that expertise developed within the
- 21 Baord itself with their legal staff, if that expertise
- 22 does not already exist today.
- Those are the questions from ACSA.
- Number 27. "The Waste Board" -- in the
- 25 second sentence of the description it says, "The Waste
- 26 Board will contract with local jurisdictions to take

- 1 over Integrated Waste Management responsibility for
- 2 implementing, improving, and monitoring waste diversion
- 3 programs at state facilities. Again, we believe this
- 4 is state scientist work and possibly engineer work, and
- 5 that clearly states it would be moved to another
- 6 jurisdiction.
- 7 Number 28, I understand that this basically
- 8 is outlining an opportunity for another type of a
- 9 cookbook, as you referred to earlier today, and
- 10 apparently these types of documents have been done in
- 11 the past at the Board, and staff is able to do those.
- Moving to Number 37. Okay. The first
- 13 sentence of the description says, "Contract with the
- 14 public, private, or nonprofit entity to develop a
- 15 selection protocol, identify and develop 24 exemplary
- 16 solid waste diversion program case studies suited for
- 17 local government needs." This is exactly the type of
- 18 work that your staff does now, and, again, we question
- 19 why it would be contracted out again if that is what
- 20 the plan is.
- Number 38. Regional workshops. I know,
- 22 just to explain my history with the scientists,
- 23 engineers, and attorneys, I've been representing those
- 24 three groups for nine years, and I know that the
- 25 scientists have done a lot of regional workshops in the
- 26 different programs, and that's certainly work that can

- 1 be done by your staff.
- 2 39. This is to implement some or all of the
- 3 recommendations contained in the ongoing world
- 4 cooperative marketing study for the office of local
- 5 assistance, and while there are some marketing
- 6 elements, the scientists do get involved with the
- 7 marketing of the -- for the -- they've done the world
- 8 cookbook, and they do get involved in the marking so
- 9 that they are successful in implementing the goals of
- 10 the Board. We believe that the scientists are still
- 11 involved in this one, too.
- 12 Number 40 is a statewide conference.
- 13 Coordinating statewide conference. I've been informed
- 14 that there have been times that the scientists, and I'm
- 15 sure the engineers, too, have coordinated conferences
- of many different interested parties, and this is not
- 17 something that's new to the state by any stretch of the
- 18 imagination, and scientists and engineers have done
- 19 this work here at the Waste Board. As an example,
- 20 there was a telephone directory recycling study that
- 21 was done without a budget at all, even though one was
- 22 allocated by the legislature a few years ago. And the
- 23 staff person was directed to not use that budgeted
- 24 money and did not do so. So we know there's people who
- 25 have the skills and abilities to conduct this work.
- Number 41. The first response I got to

- 1 this -- the description is "Funding to conduct a
- 2 qualitative assessment of Integrated Waste Management
- 3 programs and their impact on the waste stream" -- was
- 4 it sounds like fun, so obviously there's interest from
- 5 the Waste Board scientist to do this type of work, and
- 6 they do have this expertise.
- 7 Number 42 I note only because it's regarding
- 8 the integrated selected data bases, and I just wanted
- 9 to had comment to ensure that the scientists and
- 10 engineers who would eventually be the users of the
- 11 system, that they would be involved in the process.
- 12 Number 43. I note in the description it
- 13 says, "Promotion of on-site management of organic
- 14 materials and the procurement of and use of compost in
- 15 mulch by commercial and residential landscapers,
- 16 gardeners as primary targets, and this is trying to
- 17 focus the landscapers gardeners to doing their business
- 18 differently. The Waste Board scientists and engineers
- 19 have done that with other groups and they believe that
- 20 they would be just as successful with this type of a
- 21 project.
- 22 And Number --
- 23 MEMBER EATON: Do you have any examples of
- 24 that, just out of curiosity.
- MS. HAYNIE: That one I don't, but I can
- 26 certainly get them to you. Would you like that?

- 1 MEMBER EATON: That would be helpful.
- MS. HAYNIE: Okay.
- 3 MEMBER EATON: If there are those programs,
- 4 we didn't know about them, and we probably should, and
- 5 if they're not, then what you say is not accurate and,
- 6 therefore, not relevant.
- 7 MS. HAYNIE: Okay. We've had to do this
- 8 very quickly with all the changes ourselves.
- 9 Number 44. I'd like to just draw your
- 10 review to the numbers in the description paragraph that
- 11 says, "Review existing studies, develop case studies,
- 12 develop a background paper, arrange and conduct a
- 13 forum, and evaluate the effectiveness of the forum and
- 14 provide followup."
- 15 Again, this is the type of work the
- 16 scientists and engineers do in many different
- 17 situations and projects.
- Number 46 is the Grass Cycling Outreach
- 19 Program. I've been informed that one person has been
- 20 running this program alone for some time and -- one or
- 21 two people -- and, again, it appears that the proposal
- 22 is to contract this work out. Now maybe that's not
- 23 what the plan was, but, again, that's the way it
- 24 appeared to us, and we don't -- if the program's being
- 25 expanded, it should be expanded inhouse with inhouse
- 26 staff. Okay.

- 1 Number 50. "Develop and procur educational
- 2 materials, displays, handouts, et cetera, to promote
- 3 recycling reuse of construction and demolition debris
- 4 and to also promote the purchase and use of recycled
- 5 contractibility products." The Board has, again, done
- 6 all that list of items of steps of their projects in
- 7 other applications, and the scientists do not see the
- 8 difference between one type of project over another
- 9 project if the process is still the same. Okay.
- 10 Number 52. This is "Develop a
- 11 deconstruction training program to include a video and
- 12 written support materials designated to educate and
- 13 encourage the public on the process and benefits of
- 14 recovering deconstruction materials for reuse instead
- of sending those materials to California landfills."
- 16 I've actually checked out about how much it would cost
- 17 to do videos. Now I don't know what your estimated
- 18 number of videos would be, but if that is primarily
- 19 what the \$1000.00 is for for the actual production of
- 20 the videos, that would be one thing, but the other
- 21 elements that are described in that description are
- 22 things that can be done by the scientists.
- 23 MEMBER FRAZEE: That's one that's been
- 24 struck from the listing.
- MS. HAYNIE: Oh, it has. Okay.
- Is there any questions at this point? I

- 1 will certainly get back to Mr. Eaton about his
- 2 question.
- 3 MEMBER JONES: Is that all of them?
- 4 MS. HAYNIE: That's all of our concerns at
- 5 this point.
- 6 MEMBER JONES: 2,812,000, no problem.
- 7 MS. FISH: Board member, Jones --
- 8 MEMBER JONES: Grant money.
- 9 MS. FISH: -- before you give that --
- 10 Board Member Jones, before you give that all to
- 11 grants --
- MS. HAYNIE: Thank you.
- MS. FISH: -- keep in mind.
- 14 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Thank you. Sorry we
- 15 kept you waiting all day.
- MS. FISH: We are going to be looking as
- 17 we're going through the BCP process, we have submitted
- 18 a number of BCP's that are confidential at this point,
- 19 which we could ask for midyear implentation, and fully
- 20 intend to ask for staff to do a number of these things
- 21 if we receive Board approval, and so that's what we're
- 22 waiting for. So while we appreciate the union's being
- 23 here, we are also looking at that issue as well and are
- 24 going to be taking each one of these individual as we
- 25 receive direction from you to go forward.
- 26 MEMBER JONES: So you're telling me don't

- 1 get too excited.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Don't spend the money
- 3 yet.
- 4 Okay. Now we will move to --
- 5 MEMBER EATON: How much for a 5 percent
- 6 increase for the staff?
- 7 MS. FISH: I'd agree to that.
- 8 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. We're going to
- 9 move to the regular agenda items now.
- 10 Item Number 6, Consideration of approval of
- 11 Scope of Work --
- 12 MEMBER JONES: That's tomorrow.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Yeah, we're going to
- 14 take the -- go through the concepts tomorrow morning.
- 15 I just wanted --
- MS. TRGOVICH: Chairman Pennington,
- 17 Item Number 6 was really contingent upon the outcome of
- 18 Continuing Business Item Number 6 in order to approve
- 19 the scope of work, we would have needed a contract
- 20 concept to proceed with, so we would request that you
- 21 hold this.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: We'll hold that over
- 23 till tomorrow. Item Number 6 will be held over till
- tomorrow. Now we're going to move to Item Number 7.

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1 AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 7

- 2 MEMBER EATON: Mr. Chair, I understand that
- 3 it was regards to Item Number 7 that the person who did
- 4 the workup is out on medical leave and will be back in
- 5 about a week, a week and a half, and I have some
- 6 questions about some of the monies allocated, and,
- 7 therefore, would ask that this be put over to the first
- 8 week of October. For instance, we, again, provide a
- 9 \$168,000 to the Santa Monica Bay restoration project of
- 10 which, if you recall, from part and parcel of the last
- 11 coastal commission meeting that we had where we gave
- 12 them an additional 400-and-some-odd-thousand dollars to
- 13 do this kind of work in and around this area, that I
- 14 think it would only be encumbent upon us to kind of
- 15 wait until the person who is responsible for the workup
- 16 can come back from sick leave, which, I guess, is the
- 17 first week of October, which will be our next Board
- 18 meeting after Santa Barbara.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. What group were
- 20 you concerned about?
- 21 MEMBER EATON: Item Number 7 as a whole.
- 22 There's \$2.2 million worth of nonprofits in there.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Without
- 24 objections -- we do have somebody in the audience that
- 25 wanted to speak to this. I wonder if they'd like to
- 26 wait until we take it up at the meeting in October, or

- 1 whether they want to talk now. Mr. Castaneda? Am I
- 2 saying that right?
- 3 MR. CASTANEDA: Mr. Castaneda.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Castaneda.
- 5 MR. CASTANEDA: Thank you very much,
- 6 Chairman Pennington. I really would like to speak
- 7 today since I've come from San Diego, and we hopefully
- 8 will be informed when that meeting in October occurs.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Certainly.
- 10 THE WITNESS: Perhaps we'll be given the
- 11 opportunity to speak again.
- 12 Good afternoon. My name is Steve Castaneda.
- 13 I'm here today on behalf of the Partnership for
- 14 Environmental Progress, also known as PEP. We're
- 15 asking that you reconsider and amend staff's
- 16 recommendation regarding funding for nonprofit oil
- 17 grants. We make that request because should you
- 18 approve staff's recommendation, the CIWMB would be
- 19 excluding one of the largest focus audiences in the
- 20 county of San Diego from the oil education, at least
- 21 from the CEO nonprofit prospective. And San Diego,
- 22 according to 1997 San Deg census updates, 35 percent of
- 23 the region's population is Hispanic and Asian with a
- 24 large degree of each community limited English
- 25 speaking. Your staff has recommended that no
- 26 specialized targeted outreach and education be provided

- 1 to these vulnerable and otherwise hard to reach
- 2 communities, basically, and the recommendations they've
- 3 made for San Diego County in terms of those
- 4 organizations.
- In all the studies that I've seen, and we've
- 6 checked and apparently that's pretty much all that's
- 7 available at this point, each of these communities and
- 8 populations represent large percentages of
- 9 do-it-yourself oil changers and are equally potential
- 10 improper disposers. We have also identified the
- 11 burgeoning East Africa Refugee community, which in
- 12 San Diego -- and I think San Diego's probably the
- 13 largest population -- is growing more and more each day
- 14 also as a vulnerable community, which doesn't appear on
- 15 any of the research that's been done but fits the
- 16 profile of those vulnerable and susceptible community.
- 17 PEP has been providing outreach and
- 18 education services for the CIWMB through this program
- 19 for the last two and a half years, exclusively in these
- 20 communities. In each of previous grants cycles, we
- 21 have attained or surpassed our objectives and provided
- 22 education to the most hard reached communities in the
- 23 county. We have distributed over 8,000 free oil
- 24 recycling containers to minority communities and worked
- 25 to established 13 certified and noncertified oil
- 26 recycling centers in these neighborhoods, and this is

- 1 particularly important because these are the kinds of
- 2 neighborhoods -- inner city neighborhoods that have few
- 3 Kragen, Chief Auto Parts, and other chain stores that
- 4 routinely provide free or rebate recycling services.
- 5 Pep has worked hard and will continue to work hard to
- 6 convince minority owned mom-and-pop businesses to offer
- 7 recycling services where they're needed most. In fact,
- 8 it is these same neighborhoods that are plagued with
- 9 soil contamination, polluted water shed and stream
- 10 problems. Pep also secured a partnership with
- 11 Americorp to provide value added services to the
- 12 program.
- We ask that you consider the need in
- 14 continuing the work in these communities and also PEP's
- 15 past performance and reevaluate the staff's
- 16 recommendation. Your funding levels are higher. In
- 17 fact, all the organizations that are recommended to be
- 18 funding are slated to get more money, at least from
- 19 what we can tell, and there's a questions of last
- 20 year's remaining funds. So we're just asking you to
- 21 consider our past performance and understand the need
- 22 in these communities if, in fact, PEP is not funded.
- Thank you.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Thank you. Any
- 25 questions?
- 26 Okay. Thank you. Sorry we kept you waiting

- 1 so long today.
- Okay, now we're going to move to Item
- 3 Number 8, Consideration of scoring criteria and
- 4 evaluation process for the 1998/99 fiscal year
- 5 Household Hazardous Waste Grants.
- 6 AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 8
- 7 MS. FRIEDMAN: Good afternoon,
- 8 Chairman Pennington and Board members. Nora Keenan
- 9 will make the presentation for the Used Oil and
- 10 Household Hazardous Waste Staff.
- MS. KEENAN: Good afternoon. My name is
- 12 Nora Keenan. I work in the Used Oil and HHW branch.
- 13 Today I am here to present the consideration of scoring
- 14 criteria and evaluation process for the 1988/1999
- 15 Household Hazardous Waste Grants.
- As kind of a where we are in the process,
- 17 this is a step we were at in February with the
- 18 nonprofit grants that are going to be coming before you
- 19 in early October now. So to give you some kind of
- 20 bookend field, in September 1996 the Board approved the
- 21 general review criteria and process. Staff are
- 22 required to reference criteria to the Board for your
- 23 approval.
- 24 Attachment 1 is the proposed scoring
- 25 criteria. Criteria 1 through 6 are the same criteria
- 26 approved in 1996 and are used for all Board grant

- 1 programs. They highlight areas of need, objectives,
- 2 methodology, evaluation, budget, and completeness. All
- 3 that changes for these general review criteria are the
- 4 point allotments.
- 5 Criteria 8 through 12 are the preference
- 6 criteria. Please note that 8, 9, and 10 are required
- 7 by statute. Number 11 we included as a result of
- 8 direction at our last award meeting for the HD-6 cycle,
- 9 the last of HHW grants to insure that because of our
- 10 limited funding availability that as many applications
- 11 throughout the state are funded as possible. And
- 12 number 12 has been a consistent goal of our program to
- 13 fund permanent household waste facilities that are
- 14 self-sustaining on the local level. By
- 15 "self-sustaining" we do not mean they charge for
- 16 collection or are somehow revenue generating, but that
- 17 the local governments recognize the value of these
- 18 programs and are willing to put forward their funds to
- 19 keep them running.
- 20 The review process is actually identical to
- 21 what we just did for the nonprofit grants. All
- 22 applications will be -- that we receive will be divided
- 23 between review panels consisting of three members.
- 24 Generally these review panels consist of members of my
- 25 branch as well as the administration division.
- 26 For the first time this year with the -- I

- 1 keep harping back to the nonprofit grant as a source of
- 2 reference, but what we did for that grant and we are
- 3 proposing to do for the HHW as well, is that we did a
- 4 sampling. We basically doubled reviewed a sampling of
- 5 applications to make sure that our review panels were
- 6 consistent in their evaluations and their
- 7 interpretation, and we found that in all cases, the
- 8 recommendation to pass or not to pass an application
- 9 was the same and that the total point amount was within
- 10 five points in each of the six cases, and we propose to
- 11 do that for the HHW grant cycle as well.
- 12 Each panel member will review individually
- 13 the application and meet later with the rest of the
- 14 panel to achieve a composite panel score. The panel
- 15 chairs will then meet to ensure that the criteria were
- 16 applied equitably. Application scores will be ranked
- 17 and in the event that there's insufficient funding for
- 18 all eligible applicants, proposals will be recommended
- 19 in rank order.
- 20 Staff recommends approval of Resolution
- 21 98-280, and I'm available to answer any questions you
- 22 might have.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Questions?
- 24 Paper break. Okay. Let's break.
- 25 (Break taken.)
- 26 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Let's get back

- 1 to business here. Where were we?
- 2 MS. KEENAN: We were at the point where I'm
- 3 open for questions.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: You're ready for
- 5 questions.
- 6 MS. KEENAN: Yes.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Any questions?
- 8 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Yes, Mr. Jones.
- 10 MEMBER JONES: I'm going to make a motion
- 11 that we adopt Resolution 98-280, to adopt the criteria
- 12 for the Household Hazardous Waste Grants.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay.
- 14 MEMBER FRAZEE: I'll second.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: It's moved and
- 16 seconded. Any further discussion? If not, will the
- 17 secretary call the roll, please.
- 18 THE SECRETARY: Board Member Eaton.
- 19 MEMBER EATON: Aye.
- THE SECRETARY: Frazee.
- 21 MEMBER FRAZEE: Aye.
- THE SECRETARY: Jones.
- 23 MEMBER JONES: Aye.
- 24 THE SECRETARY: Chairman Pennington.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Aye. Motion carries.
- Move to Item Number 9, Consideration of

- 1 State Legislation.
- 2 MEMBER EATON: Mr. Chairman, I think that
- 3 Mr. Jones would ask that if we could just kick this
- 4 over to tomorrow in the interest that some people are
- 5 in the audience who traveled some miles and -- move.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Sure.
- 7 MEMBER EATON: This isn't the most pressing
- 8 thing, so if you do that it will be fine with me.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Move that till
- 10 tomorrow.
- 11 MEMBER JONES: So we'll do that tomorrow?
- 12 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Yes.
- 13 Moving to 10, Item Number 10, Consideration
- 14 of a revised solid waste Facility permit for the
- 15 Mission Trails Transfer Station in Santa Clara County.
- Don Dier.
- 17 AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 10
- MR. DIER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd
- 19 like to acknowledge Jon Whitehill of my staff who did
- 20 the staff work on this but he had to -- couldn't stick
- 21 it out. He had to leave at 3:00 for a wedding
- 22 rehearsal, so I'm filling in for him.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Should have left some
- 24 champagne for us, though.
- MR. DIER: This facility was originally
- 26 permitted as the Richards Avenue Recycling Facility in

- 1 1991. In January of this year the LEA approved a
- 2 change in operator and owner. The new operator,
- 3 Mission Trails Waste Systems and new owner, Santa Clara
- 4 Valley Industries are proposing to implement changes
- 5 that were originally proposed by the previous operator
- 6 and approved by the City of Santa Clara Planning
- 7 Division in 1984. These changes include paving of the
- 8 parking area for use as a new entrance, allowing public
- 9 dropoff of materials without an increase in traffic or
- 10 tonnage, an installation of improved processing
- 11 equipment. The facility will still be prohibited from
- 12 accepting household garbage and all waste will be
- 13 delivered, stored, and processed within the transfer
- 14 building.
- The previous operator was not able to revise
- 16 the permit do to violations of state minimum standards.
- 17 Just for the record, the previous operator did have a
- 18 fairly dismal record of operation there, but since the
- 19 current owner and operator has taken over, the
- 20 operations have been cleaned up.
- 21 The LEA has documented that the facility is
- 22 currently operating in compliance with state minimum
- 23 standards and has not noted a violation since November
- 24 of 1996. However, one business in the surrounding
- 25 industrial park has indicated that they may continue a
- 26 lawsuit filed against the previous owner/operator for

- 1 odor, noise and dust nuisance. That was in 1996. If
- 2 you like, I'm sure the operator can give you an update
- 3 on that, but that's not really an issue with this
- 4 permit. In fact, I think that whole issue has been
- 5 continued till December. As I indicated, it's not an
- 6 issue here.
- 7 At the time the agenda item was prepared
- 8 Board staff had not yet completed the Integrated Waste
- 9 Management plan conformance finding, but since that
- 10 time it has been found in conformance with the plan,
- 11 and staff are able to make all the required findings,
- 12 which include the requirements of CEQA have been met,
- 13 the facility was originally built based upon a negative
- 14 declaration that was adopted in 1990, and the changes
- 15 that are undergoing at this time are being handled
- 16 through a Class 1 categorical exemption, which the city
- 17 has processed, and we reviewed that and agree with that
- 18 determination.
- 19 The proposed permit is consistent with
- 20 standards adopted by the Board. The operation of the
- 21 facility is identified in and consistent with the
- 22 approved CIWMP, the County Integrated Waste Management
- 23 Plan, and Board staff and the LEA have determined that
- 24 the plan and operation is in compliance with state
- 25 minimum standards.
- 26 So at this time we will recommend the Board

- 1 adopt Resolution 98-312, concurring in the issuance of
- 2 solid waste facility permit Number 43-A0-0002.
- John Dufresne of the LEA is here to answer
- 4 any questions, and the operator, Mr. Pelligrini is also
- 5 present if you have any questions.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Do you have any
- 7 questions?
- 8 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Mr. Jones.
- 10 MEMBER JONES: The odor, dust, and -- I
- 11 think you said it, but I think I was searching for the
- 12 resolution -- the odor, dust, and litter issues that
- 13 were brought up in '96 --
- MR. DIER: And noise.
- 15 MEMBER JONES: And noise -- you said that
- 16 there haven't been any violations --
- MR. DIER: No, there haven't.
- 18 MEMBER JONES: -- noted since when?
- MR. DIER: Since November of '96.
- 20 MEMBER JONES: That's Mr. Pelligrini?
- 21 MR. DIER: Yes, it is.
- 22 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman?
- 23 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Yes.
- 24 MEMBER JONES: I'd like to make a motion
- 25 that we adopt Resolution 98-312, issuing a solid waste
- 26 facility permit for facility number 43-A0-0002.

- 1 MEMBER FRAZEE: I will second.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: I'd be glad to bring
- 3 it to a vote, but we don't have a resolution, so we'll
- 4 have to wait about a week.
- 5 MEMBER EATON: If you could eliminate
- 6 paragraph zero.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: If there's no further
- 8 discussion, will the Secretary call the roll --
- 9 THE SECRETARY: Board Member Eaton.
- 10 MEMBER EATON: Aye.
- 11 THE SECRETARY: Frazee.
- 12 MEMBER FRAZEE: Aye.
- 13 THE SECRETARY: Jones.
- MEMBER JONES: Aye.
- 15 THE SECRETARY: Chairman Pennington.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Aye. Motion carries.
- 17 Sorry to have kept you here so long all day.
- Okay. Moving on to Item Number 11,
- 19 consideration of sites for remediation under the Waste
- 20 Tire Stabilization and Abatement.
- 21 AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 11
- MS. NAUMAN: Mr. Chairman and members,
- 23 Bob Fujii will be making the presentation.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Thank you.
- MR. FUJII: Good afternoon,
- 26 Chairman Pennington, members of the Board.

- 1 Item Number 11 is consideration of sites for
- 2 remediation under the Waste Tire Stabilization and
- 3 Abatement Program. Today we'll be bringing forward
- 4 seven sites for consideration of funding out of our
- 5 program, and at all seven sites the property owners
- 6 have failed to take appropriate action as ordered by
- 7 the Board.
- 8 The seven sites are described as follows.
- 9 The first site is the Brewer Waste.
- 10 Tire site located adjacent to Highway 43 in
- 11 Tulare County. There are an estimated 275,000 waste
- 12 tires that have been stockpiled in an unsecured,
- 13 remote and rural agricultural area in Tulare County.
- 14 The Board previously approved funding for
- 15 stabilization measures at this site, but staff have
- 16 been unable to locate the property owners to secure
- 17 property access, so no stabilization work measures
- 18 have been implemented today, and since the property
- 19 has been sold to new owners, Board staff will pursue
- 20 administrative enforcement actions against these new
- 21 property owners and then seek property access with
- 22 assistance from the county through their nuisance and
- 23 abatement ordinance in an attempt to get them to
- 24 remediate their site. The counties also will assist
- 25 us in surveying the property to determine exactly how
- 26 many tires are stockpiled on each of the properties,

- 1 and if we are unsuccessful with our enforcement
- 2 process, we will proceed with the Board's sponsor a
- 3 mediation and pursue costs or coverage against the
- 4 new property owners.
- 5 Another issue at the site was that there was
- 6 a tire fire that occurred at this site in 1994 and the
- 7 fire department has since separated the larger piles
- 8 into smaller piles, and in doing that, has spread these
- 9 tires over more parcels than they originally were
- 10 present on in the first place. So it's going to
- 11 complicate our cleanup a little bit. The estimated
- 12 cost for remediation of this site is if \$550,000.
- 13 The second site is The Central Recycling
- 14 waste tire site, also located on -- also located in
- 15 Tulare County on Avenue 304. The operator/property
- owner was paid a fee and accepted approximatley 33,000
- 17 waste tires as an auto dismantling and wrecking yard in
- 18 the city of Visalia. The surrounding land use is
- 19 industrial and commercial and is within about a
- 20 five-mile radius of downtown area of Visalia. The auto
- 21 dismantling wrecking yard is an operating business and
- 22 it's secured by perimeter fencing. In an attempt to
- 23 remediate this site, the property owner has it entered
- 24 into a written agreement with the Board to remove an
- 25 equivalent of 2,000 waste tires each month for an
- 26 18-month period, and if the tires are not removed by

- 1 the end of the 18-month period to a facility authorized
- 2 to accept the waste tires, a simple penalty in the
- 3 amount of \$45,000 will be assessed. However, if this
- 4 should change, we would proceed with the Board's
- 5 sponsor remediation and pursue cost or coverage against
- 6 the property owner. Estimated cost for remediating
- 7 this site, \$45,000.
- 8 The third site is a land waste tire site
- 9 located in San Benito County, and although the site has
- 10 removed some of the tires over the past four years,
- 11 there are still an estimated 20,000 tires remaining
- 12 illegally stockpiled at the site. This property
- 13 consists of approximately five acres and is located in
- 14 a low density residential agricultural area in
- 15 Hollister. The tires are immediately behind a
- 16 residence and there are several residences within 1,000
- 17 feet, and the site is not secured by any fencing. Our
- 18 car enforcement section and legal have pursued and
- 19 obtained a stipulated lien against the property in an
- 20 amount of \$34,000. The estimated cost for remediating
- 21 this site, \$53,000.
- The fourth site. Secret Town Road waste
- 23 tire site, located in an unsecured remote wooded hilly
- 24 area in Placer County. There are an estimated 25,000
- 25 waste tires discarded along the slopes of a ravine and
- 26 hidden in the terrain by an unknown party. Access to

- 1 the tires is difficult and very limited work areas at
- 2 the top of the ravine for the remediation. The
- 3 property's owned by several elderly individuals, and
- 4 the property owners have already spent about 13,000
- 5 trying to clean the tires up. They hired the
- 6 California Conservation Corp to remove the tires, and
- 7 originally it was thought that 13,000 would provide
- 8 sufficient funds for the cleanup, but, you know, after
- 9 one year in removing the tires one by one, half the
- 10 tires were about 13,000 still remaining. The property
- 11 owners have exhausted their resources and are trying to
- 12 remediate the pile that they did not create, and so the
- 13 pile still remains. Estimated cost for remediating
- 14 this site is \$33,800.
- The fifth site is Turner Auto Wrecking site
- 16 located in Fresno County, an estimated 75,000 waste
- 17 tires that have been discarded at an auto wrecking and
- 18 dismantling yard located directly east of Highway 99
- 19 near downtown Fresno. The auto dismantling and
- 20 wrecking is an operating business and is secured by
- 21 perimeter fencing.
- The owner of the property has been
- 23 stockpiling waste tires for many years, and for more
- 24 than three years the owner has been attempting to
- 25 remediate the site. However, to date very few tires
- 26 have been removed from the site. Board enforcement

- 1 staff issued a notice and order in which the property
- 2 owners were requested to submit a compliance schedule
- 3 and removal plan. The property owner who -- the
- 4 property owners have not removed the tires within the
- 5 time frames agreed upon in the removal plan, and so
- 6 staff is in the process of preparing an administrative
- 7 complaint against the property owners. Estimated cost
- 8 for remediating this site is \$200,000.
- 9 The sixth site is the Henry Hiller waste
- 10 tire site. It's located in a low density, rural,
- 11 residential neighborhood in Fresno County. There are
- 12 an estimated 2,000 waste tires that were stockpiled by
- 13 the owner's son around his residence on the site. The
- 14 property has no perimeter fencing. The property
- owners, the parents of the operator, have evicted their
- 16 son, and he's presently incarcerated on an unrelated
- 17 charge. The Board enforcement staff issued a notice
- 18 and order requiring that the property owners submit a
- 19 compliance schedule and removal plan to remediate the
- 20 site. The owners live on a fixed income and do not
- 21 have resources to remediate the tires on their
- 22 property. So they've agreed to sign a stipulation lien
- 23 in an amount of \$20,000, and have provided site access
- 24 for a Board sponsored cleanup of the site. Estimated
- cost for cleaning this site up is \$6,000.
- 26 The last -- the seventh and last site is

- 1 Bill Auto Wreckers waste tire site, located on
- 2 Feather River Road in the city of Linda, Yuba County.
- 3 The owner of the site stockpiled and estimated 10,000
- 4 waste tires over the last 18 years. The site is
- 5 secured by perimeter fencing. The surrounding is
- 6 mostly agricultural.
- 7 Board enforcement staff issued a notice and
- 8 order requiring that the property owner submit a
- 9 compliance schedule and removal plan. The property
- 10 owners have responded that they do not have resources
- 11 to clean the site up, so they have signed a stipulated
- 12 lien in the amount of \$16,000 and have provided access
- 13 for a Board sponsored cleanup. Estimated cost,
- 14 \$25,000.
- 15 At this point staff is recommending adoption
- of Resolution 98-284, approving these sights for
- 17 remediation. That concludes my presentation.
- 18 Any questions?
- 19 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Questions?
- 20 MEMBER EATON: I've got a general question.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Go ahead, Mr. Eaton.
- 22 MEMBER EATON: I continue to be somewhat
- 23 inquisitve. Since we're learning about CEQA today, I
- 24 might as well learn about tires.
- 25 Can you explain to me -- do we have a
- 26 priority list of sites.

- 1 MR. FUJII: Priority meaning?
- 2 MEMBER EATON: It says right here that these
- 3 are priority. Do we a priority list of sites for
- 4 remediation?
- 5 MR. FUJII: We have a list of sites for that
- 6 we're currently in the process of remediating. There
- 7 isn't really a priority list. We basically clean every
- 8 tire up -- tire site up that comes into our program for
- 9 consideration if it's approved by the Board for
- 10 cleanup.
- 11 MEMBER EATON: How do we develop a list of
- 12 priority sites, and let me tell you, this is nothing
- 13 against you or the staff, but we are increasingly
- 14 coming under scrutiny as a Board for how much money is
- 15 devoted for market development, how much for cleanup,
- 16 et cetera. Do we have a list of priority sites, and
- 17 how do we determine, you know, how and what to
- 18 remediate on that site, because I think those are
- 19 important questions, because they're being asked by
- 20 those who supply us with the necessary funds?
- 21 MR. FUJII: I guess to answer your question,
- 22 when the sites are referred over to us from
- 23 enforcement, they're given a priority by our
- 24 enforcement staff, and typically the sites that are
- 25 near a residential development or in areas sensitive
- 26 to, you know, if a tire fire were to occur are ranked

- 1 higher than those that are not in more remote areas.
- 2 And so, yes, they are ranked when they come over,
- 3 usually with a ranking of 1, 2, or 3. The sites that
- 4 typically we bring forward to you are in the 1, you
- 5 know, the first rank kind of category. We do receive
- 6 some rank 3's that are on the list, and what we
- 7 typically try to do is, when we go up to remediate,
- 8 say, a rank 1 site and there are some in the area that
- 9 happen to be rank 3, because it's cost effective for us
- 10 to use our contractor, we may go ahead and deal with
- 11 the rank 1 site and maybe clean up a rank 3 site at the
- 12 same time if it's in the general vicinity.
- 13 MEMBER EATON: But, do we have a list of
- 14 those that might be the most dangerous to the public
- 15 health and safety? I mean, if we're going out and
- 16 looking at, you know, or surveying site, what is our
- 17 process? Because I think that's going to become an
- 18 important question, and if they don't have one, then I
- 19 would ask staff if they could try to develop a priority
- 20 list of those sites which become, you know, throughout
- 21 the state.

22

- MR. FUJII: You know, not speaking for
- 24 enforcement, but I can tell you that probably the
- 25 most -- the largest and most -- the sites that would
- 26 pose the greatest threat to the public have been

- 1 identified, probably through our process already.
- 2 There are probably some sites out there still that we
- 3 haven't dealed with because we haven't identified them
- 4 yet. I think I can tell you with a fair amount of
- 5 confidence that we've identified pretty much all the
- 6 tire sites that pose the most significant threat to the
- 7 public at this point. And they're either on our list
- 8 or in the enforcement process somewhere.
- 9 MEMBER EATON: Could we get that list?
- MR. FUJII: Sure.
- 11 MEMBER EATON: Thank you. That's all I
- 12 have, just a general question.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Is that the same list
- 14 I got --
- MR. FUJII: Yeah. The list of sites, I
- 16 think I provided them to most of the Board members of
- 17 all the sites that are currently on our clean-up list.
- 18 MEMBER EATON: The key response was most
- 19 Board members.
- 20 MR. FUJII: Okay. Sorry about that.
- 21 MEMBER JONES: I don't think I have it
- 22 either.
- 23 MEMBER EATON: Mr. Jones didn't have it
- 24 either.
- MR. FUJII: I stand corrected.
- 26 MEMBER EATON: That's all right. I think

- 1 it's just important so you know the reasoning for the
- 2 questioning. It has nothing to do with what you're
- 3 doing or recommending. Rather, it is really a question
- 4 that I am being asked by the budget makers in the
- 5 legislature. I think we're also about to embark upon
- 6 doing an entire report. Those kinds of things, and I
- 7 think all of those will help us as a Board and those
- 8 who are going to be charged with that responsibility
- 9 for doing that work to have the necessary information
- 10 and, you know, so we can talk all amongst ourselves,
- 11 and I think that's going to be helpful and it also
- 12 probably provide justification. So it's really meant
- 13 more in a constructive way than a critical or
- 14 destructive way.
- MR. FUJII: Okay. I appreciate that.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Any other questions?
- 17 If not, I'll entertain a motion.
- 18 MEMBER FRAZEE: Mr. Chairman, I'll move
- 19 adoption of Resoltuion 98-284.
- 20 MEMBER EATON: I'll second that motion.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. It's been moved
- 22 and seconded. If there's no further discussion, will
- 23 the secretary call the roll.
- THE SECRETARY: Board Member Eaton.
- 25 MEMBER EATON: Aye.
- THE SECRETARY: Frazee.

- 1 MEMBER FRAZEE: Aye.
- THE SECRETARY: Jones.
- 3 MEMBER JONES: Aye.
- 4 THE SECRETARY: Chairman Pennington.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Aye. Motion carries.
- 6 Item Number 12, consideration of actions to
- 7 address issues associated with the Tiered Regulatory
- 8 System. Julie Nauman.
- 9 AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 12
- 10 MR. HOLMES: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman.
- 11 Bob Holmes with the permitting and enforcement
- 12 division.
- 13 This item -- staff began work on this item
- 14 in March of 1998 with a presentation to the permitting
- 15 and enforcement committee. The committee directed
- 16 staff to go out and collect additional feedback from
- 17 interested and affected parties. Workshops were held
- 18 in May of this year. One of the common things of the
- 19 May workshops were that the majority of the issues were
- 20 centered in the standardized tier. There wasn't a good
- 21 deal of representation from operators of standardized
- 22 tiers or LEA's who oversee those permits at the
- 23 workshops, so it was suggested that staff survey those
- 24 operators and LEA's. The results of the survey are in
- 25 Attachment 2 of the staff report. Some of the
- 26 discussion and some of the results from the workshops

- 1 are in Attachment 1 of your agenda item.
- 2 From the survey and from the results of the
- 3 workshops, 15 different possible responses were
- 4 analyzed and addressed by staff. Those 15 are also
- 5 included your agenda item. Staff are recommending
- 6 action on five of those -- and if I can get this fired
- 7 up. Staff are recommending action in the following
- 8 five areas. These are also numbered in your agenda
- 9 item, the numbers to the right.
- 10 The first item is uptiering. We find this
- 11 one to be a promising action. It was found very well
- 12 received by both industry and the LEA community as a
- 13 way to address a good number of the issues in one
- 14 action. This option is currently available with the
- 15 regs as they stand today. However, in order to
- 16 implement that option, an operator would have to
- 17 describe themself as something other than they are.
- 18 For example, if you were a green waste composter and
- 19 you wanted to receive or process greater than 10,000
- 20 cubic yards, you would have to describe yourself as a
- 21 mixed municipal waste composter, and it may not be
- 22 prudent for a number of reasons.
- 23 The second issue has to do with permit
- 24 change flexibility. Currently there is no provision to
- 25 revise a tiered permit. You'd simply apply and receive
- 26 a new permit, and it has been suggested that some

- 1 consideration be given to existing facilities that are
- 2 tiered so that it doesn't appear that they are
- 3 continually applying for new permits. There should be
- 4 some credit given to existing operations.
- 5 The third change has to do with the change
- 6 in operation. It was suggested that the regulations
- 7 and policies should be clearer to provide for changes
- 8 to the operation. Staff's suggestion here is that we
- 9 adopt a process similar to what was adopted for
- 10 landfills in Title 27 whereby application is made to
- 11 the LEA 150 days in advance of wanting to make a change
- 12 in operation. If three findings can be made that the
- 13 change is consistent with CEQA, is consistent with
- 14 state minimum standards, and consistent with the terms
- 15 and conditions of the permit, that change can be made
- in the RFI and the permit does not have to be revised.
- 17 If those findings cannot be made, then a permit
- 18 revision is required.
- 19 The fourth suggestion has to do with
- 20 standardized permits, and the process time available to
- 21 Board staff after the LEA has made their decision on
- 22 the completeness of the package, and currently 30 days
- 23 is allowed for that, and oftentimes Board staff, that
- 24 time is significantly reduced, so staff are asking the
- 25 Board either to delegate the authority to concur in the
- 26 issuance of those permits or to extend the timeline so

- 1 we have sufficient time to thoroughly review those.
- 2 The fifth recommendation has to do with
- 3 operations plans. Currently operations plans are
- 4 required, and the term we referred to as reports of
- 5 facility information for full and standardized permits.
- 6 LEA's voiced a strong opinion that some type of
- 7 operations plan should be required throughout the tiers
- 8 so that they can make a proper determination on
- 9 appropriate slotting, as well as to gauge significance
- 10 of changes after the facility is in operation.
- 11 So that concludes staff's recommendation.
- 12 As you notice from the updated resolution, there are
- 13 two areas that would require a decision on your behalf,
- 14 options for you, in addition to this yes or no on staff
- 15 recommendations for the permit change flexibility.
- 16 What we're saying there is that the process is
- 17 currently in regulation. We're not going to adjust the
- 18 process any. We're just basically going to give it a
- 19 new name and call it a revision. We can't shorten the
- 20 process any further than what's already available. So
- 21 we're asking you to make a decision, is that
- 22 appropriate to do that, is it necessary to do that, or
- 23 should we just continue with the regulation as is? And
- 24 then, as I mentioned on the option on Number 3 with the
- 25 standardized -- Number 4 with the standardized permits
- 26 your delegation of authority, or extend the process

- 1 time.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Any questions?
- 3 MEMBER JONES: I have a few, Mr. Chairman.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Mr. Jones.
- 5 MEMBER JONES: On the operating plan -- you
- 6 know, I don't have a problem with an operation plan for
- 7 a facility, but I don't know why slotting -- why it's
- 8 required under slotting. Those are clearly
- 9 notification to 60 yards or less. So that's a
- 10 measurement, and the other than one is 100 -- what is
- 11 the other one, 100 tons or less, registration? Is it
- 12 100 tons or less.
- MR. HOLMES: It would depend on -- are we
- 14 talking about transfer station or compost or --
- 15 MEMBER JONES: Transfer. On the
- 16 registration tier.
- MR. BLOCK: For the transfer processing
- 18 regulations that are proposed, that's the cutoff.
- 19 There are different cutoffs for composting operations
- 20 and for other operations that have been subjected to
- 21 the tiers, like contaminated soil and ash.
- 22 MEMBER JONES: Okay. But the operating
- 23 plan, one of the things about the registration tier,
- 24 and obviously the notification tiers sent a letter and
- 25 said, "I want to put a facility over here," but under
- 26 the registration tier it was -- I thought that the

- 1 regulation showed that they needed to have a brief
- 2 description and an operating plan for a transfer
- 3 station and that the LEA -- that that was an accepted
- 4 document. The LEA would not -- could not add
- 5 conditions to that.
- 6 MR. BLOCK: That's correct. What Mr. Holmes
- 7 is talking about, with the transfer processing
- 8 regulations, which are still in the process, this is an
- 9 issue that's been ongoing at the same time, and so
- 10 those regulations on their own actually establish a
- 11 requirement for the operations plan in a registration
- 12 tier. What we're talking about in this item is
- 13 actually putting that into the general procedures for
- 14 any kind of registration facility.
- 15 MEMBER JONES: All right. I don't have a
- 16 problem with that, but that doesn't change the -- I
- 17 know that -- any committee that we have talked about
- 18 some land use issues and some condition issues and, you
- 19 know, some things like that, this operating plan is
- 20 provided by the operator. Are we going to establish
- 21 guidelines of what that should look like?
- MR. BLOCK: Presumably that would be part of
- 23 what we'd put forward as to what would be the contents
- 24 of that, and we're talking about it as a descriptive
- 25 document right now under the registration tier with the
- 26 exception of transfer processing where we've added it.

- 1 There's actually no requirement that there be an
- 2 operations plan at all. There's some description in
- 3 the application, basically, that becomes an attachment
- 4 to the registration permit, but those no separate
- 5 descriptive document.
- 6 MR. HOLMES: If I could add, all the staff's
- 7 recommendation other than the delegation of authority
- 8 would require rule making, and so we would have to
- 9 change the regulation, so much of the detail that we
- 10 were talking about would come out in that rule making
- 11 process.
- 12 MEMBER JONES: Okay. So basically if we go
- 13 along with this, we're going to go through the process
- 14 of rule making on a lot of issues, but I don't know if
- 15 this is one of them, on the uptiering where we are talk
- 16 about the recommendations relies for regulations to
- 17 allow for uptiering when an operator and the
- 18 enforcement agency agree. Options would be open on all
- 19 tiers. You know, because there's also an option for
- 20 appeal if they disagree. We've had cases where a
- 21 public facility operated in an area with a private
- 22 facility and the public facility also happened to be
- 23 the LEA, and they did not process a facility increase,
- 24 or a facility change in some descriptions because they
- 25 were -- you know, they were having a hard time coming
- 26 around to do that. When we say that any uptiering is

- 1 going to be mutually agreed to between the LEA and the
- 2 operator, if an operator has done an EIR and has spent
- 3 the money on those things and has established the
- 4 permit, or has requested a permit capacity level based
- 5 on the capacity on the facility, not so much what's
- 6 coming in the door today, but on what that facility has
- 7 been built to be able to handle and still operate under
- 8 the minimum the standards. Does that have to be agreed
- 9 to with an LEA, that, in fact, the LEA agrees that the
- 10 facility that that operator could uptier to that
- 11 capacity? That becomes an arbitrary decision on an
- 12 LEA?
- MR. BLOCK: Well, of course it could never
- 14 be an arbitrary decision for a variety of reasons, at
- 15 least not legally.
- 16 MEMBER EATON: Perhaps capricious but never
- 17 arbitrary.
- 18 MR. BLOCK: Really what we're getting at
- 19 with that, and this has been the topic of discussion
- 20 for a number of years, and the reason that it's phrased
- 21 the way it is in terms of agreement between both the
- 22 parties, is we've had a lot of disagreement about who
- 23 should get to decide if there are going to be
- 24 variations in that tier, and, of course, LEA's think
- 25 that they should get to decide regardless of what the
- 26 operator may think and vice versa. And so at the very

- 1 at least we identified the fact that where both the LEA
- 2 and the operator agree that it made sense for a
- 3 particular facility to uptier, we want to identify
- 4 that. We have not really figured out a way to resolve
- 5 where there's a disagreement. It's certainly something
- 6 that whether we want to avoid it or not will come up
- 7 again as we move through a rule making process. So if
- 8 your direction is that you want us to continue to
- 9 explore ways to deal with that situation, we can do
- 10 that, but for the purposes that this item was brought
- 11 forward, we were just zeroing in on that one situation
- 12 where we know everybody agrees that we ought to allow
- 13 for that uptiering in that case.
- 14 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Any other
- 15 questions?
- 16 MEMBER EATON: Just a point of
- 17 clarification.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Certainly, Mr. Eaton.
- 19 MEMBER EATON: The only thing that would not
- 20 require a rule making process would be is if we decide
- 21 to choose the option of delegation; is that correct?
- MR. HOLMES: Yes, on the staff's
- 23 recommendation, the five items you see there, the only
- one that does not require a rule making is the
- 25 delegation.
- 26 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay?

- 1 I'll entertain a motion.
- 2 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman, I want to give
- 3 you this motion, 'cause I got a feeling we're coming to
- 4 an end of today, but on Number 12 while we're talking
- 5 about the time, it would be helpful --
- 6 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chair, I believe there was
- 7 one member of the public.
- 8 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Oh, I'm sorry.
- 9 MEMBER JONES: Can I still ask my question
- 10 of Bob, first?
- 11 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: It's getting to be a
- 12 long day.
- 13 MEMBER JONES: When we're talking about the
- 14 60-day clock, or the 30-day clock, 60-day clock, we had
- 15 an issue, jeez, pretty recently -- I think we've dealt
- 16 with it at the last three Board meetings -- where we
- 17 still have to determine, I think, when we determine
- 18 that the clock starts. So I don't -- you know, I would
- 19 hope that under Number 12, or whatever it is, Number 12
- 20 where we talk about 30 and 60 days that we continue
- 21 that discussion. We've had it in committee a lot of
- 22 times, but we need to determine when we -- when the
- 23 Board determines that an application is complete so
- 24 that we don't get jammed three days after a local
- 25 hearing with a permit that only has a week left for us
- 26 to give up in because we have no options, and I think

- 1 if we don't get anything out of these five options, I
- 2 think that's one that we had better not walk away from.
- 3 I mean, we have got to get that defined or it's going
- 4 to continue to be a problem.
- 5 MR. HOLMES: And that's something you think
- 6 we need to do in regulation?
- 7 MEMBER JONES: Any way you want. I don't
- 8 care if it's in regulation or -- whatever is legal.
- 9 Whatever gets the discussion from everybody. Obviously
- 10 we'll do it in a workshop, but I think we need to make
- 11 that very clear some day.
- MS. TOBIAS: Are you talking about
- 13 standardized permits only, or are you talking about all
- 14 our permits.
- 15 MEMBER JONES: I'm talking about all of
- 16 them.
- 17 MS. TOBIAS: I don't know if I want to jump
- 18 in here or not, but we have talked in the past about
- 19 doing -- I think both you and I brought up doing a
- 20 schedule that would show when the items can come in and
- 21 make a certain agenda for a certain meeting. Is that
- 22 what you're talking about?
- 23 MEMBER JONES: No. What I'm talking about
- 24 is, a package that is delivered and we deem it
- 25 complete. Staff says, "Okay. We have accepted this.
- 26 We deem it complete," today the clock starts. Not a

- 1 phone call that says, "We are going to be sending a
- 2 permit to you, and it's going to come FedEx, and it
- 3 should there in the next couple of days. Start the
- 4 clock," and then two and a half weeks later it shows up
- 5 and we've only got another week and a half to make a
- 6 decision. That ain't going to work. And it's
- 7 happened, and we know it's happened.
- 8 MR. HOLMES: If it's the desire of the Board
- 9 for us to include that aspect in the proposed rule
- 10 making, we'll certainly --
- 11 MS. TOBIAS: We can try.
- MR. HOLMES: -- make an attempt at it.
- 13 MEMBER JONES: It's my request. I don't
- 14 know how the other Board members feel. I know Bob and
- 15 I have had this discussion at an awful lot of --
- 16 MEMBER EATON: Let's just make it part of
- 17 the resolution today.
- 18 MEMBER JONES: Sure. Make it are part the
- 19 resolution. I think it just has to happen.
- 20 MEMBER EATON: Or not make it part of the
- 21 resolution, just the whole issue. I mean, it's up to
- 22 you, your lead.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Mr. Proe.
- MR. PROE: Yes, Steven Proe from Greenwood,
- 25 secretary of the El Dorado County Taxpayers for Quality
- 26 Growth. I will try not to be repetitive from my

- 1 comments before, but in the interim time of when I came
- 2 to speak on the 10th of September, I have had the
- 3 opportunity as a result of information received from
- 4 the Regional Water Quality Control Board to have made
- 5 three visits to the Union Mine Landfill in regards to
- 6 the LEA notification process and procedure, which this
- 7 Number 12 addresses, and the staff has been --
- 8 Mr. Holmes has been informative in providing me with a
- 9 copy of Barkley's California Code, Title 27 in regards
- 10 to noticing of projects, and the letter that I have
- 11 brought forward to present the the Board and the staff
- 12 makes a very simple uncumbersome and if anything
- 13 compliments what is in the code right now, and this
- 14 that is simply if I or any other agency or a group
- 15 wishes to be notified of pending projects or when a
- 16 project comes in for some sort of a determination or
- 17 action by an LEA or by the Waste Board or anyone else
- 18 that has regulatory -- and I'm not familiar, that's why
- 19 had I'm going a little far afield as to all the things,
- 20 but I want to make sure that they're all included --
- 21 that if I generate a letter, send the fax into -- I'll
- 22 use the LEA because that's what I'm familiar with --
- 23 and request to be notified that there is a pending
- 24 change, whether it be big or small, just to be notified
- 25 that it's in existence and what it is briefly and have
- 26 the opportunity if I or anyone else has an interest in

- 1 that action to be able to go in, which we have right
- 2 now from what I read, to go in and review the documents
- 3 that have been submitted and to make appropriate
- 4 comments, and I understand the comments and the talk
- 5 that we had and some of the talks that I had with staff
- 6 where they state that usually isn't a problem, and,
- 7 again, I can only deal with I've been up against.
- In my letter that I've given to you I have
- 9 attached documents going back 60 days to our county and
- 10 almost 30 days to our LEA requesting documents and
- 11 information, and from both entities they have been
- 12 unresponsive. The one especially to the county was
- 13 under the California Public Records Act, and to this
- 14 date there has been no response, and I forwarded copies
- of that also to the LEA because they are the one that I
- 16 can only assume approved the major expenditures at the
- 17 Union Mine Landfill.
- 18 When we were speaking with staff, the
- 19 question again came up, as we've been speaking most of
- 20 today, as compliance with CEQA of which it appears from
- 21 everything that's been said here today that your agency
- 22 has the obligation and the duty to make sure that these
- 23 projects are going forward and being in compliance with
- 24 CEQA, not only the approval, but the conditions of
- 25 approval, and it appears, from what I'm reading, not
- 26 only from when I'm reading here and listening to and

- 1 speaking with staff, that is an unclear situation as to
- 2 how, when, or where that will be done, and I think that
- 3 needs immediate clarification. If someone says, "Well
- 4 they did a negative dec, " or "they did an EIR, " or
- 5 "they did a mitigated," not only just the statement
- 6 that they did it, but are they in compliance? Have
- 7 they complied with the conditions of it? This
- 8 particular location has not complied with their
- 9 conditions of original approval, and yet even though I
- 10 bring it to everyone's staff, they all say, "Well, it's
- 11 really not clear as to who's supposed to enforce that,"
- 12 even though part of your rules and regulations say that
- 13 they have to be in compliance with CEQA.
- 14 After the letters you have, this is
- 15 approximately 31 pages of a construction quality
- 16 assurance plan of the partial final closure of 14.6
- 17 acres of the northern area of this facility. This is
- 18 time date stamped by the regional board of
- 19 September 14th, which I got up at 4:30 this morning so
- 20 I could go over there so I could be here bright and
- 21 early for you guys, and to make sure that I knew what I
- 22 was talking about. There's also a September 8th letter
- 23 from Fish and Game for a bioassessment for the
- 24 discharges from the Union Mine Landfill. I've been
- 25 doing work at this landfill for almost five years now,
- 26 and if I have not been as diligent as I am, I have no

- 1 way of knowing what is going on at that landfill,
- 2 because it appears that something is changing every
- 3 day, and then I get my hands on a letter from whatever
- 4 the source is that says we've been contemplating this,
- 5 but they don't tell everyone. It's all inhouse between
- 6 the LEA, between environmental management, between the
- 7 operator of the landfill who's also the contractor at
- 8 the landfill that's also doing the construction and
- 9 excavation work at the landfill with no notice of
- 10 preparation, no CEQA whatsoever, no plans, no project
- 11 description, except this quality assurance plan, and
- 12 this was just available to the public and to the
- 13 agencies, and the job is three-quarters done.
- 14 This is why I'm asking for this change or
- 15 this stipulation or to add into your rules so that we
- 16 have the opportunity to see this, these type of
- 17 actions, prior to them being done. These people that
- 18 came in here from Humboldt County at least had a notice
- 19 of preparation that they could look at. They had a
- 20 project description they could look at. They had a
- 21 hearing. This is, within the last five months,
- 22 a-million-and-a-half dollars worth of work, all
- 23 inhouse, no competitive bidding. No notice of public
- 24 indication. No project description. All being signed
- off, I can only assume, because I've seen the document
- and the LEA has been unresponsive. That's why I been

- 1 here to plead my case. I've tried to go through staff,
- 2 and sometimes it's kind of hard to get through your
- 3 legal staff, as many people have seen.
- But, again, I'm doing the best that I can,
- 5 so that the Board is aware of these problems, and if ${\tt I}$
- 6 have to go through the back door to make sure the Board
- 7 is aware of these problems so that in the future should
- 8 anything come up, that the Board can't say, "Steve, you
- 9 should have come in and talked to us. Maybe we could
- 10 have done something." So that's one of the reasons,
- 11 and Item Number 12 is a fine vehicle for that, and I
- 12 thank you for your time, and I please wish to be
- 13 notified whenever -- I don't know what your decision is
- 14 going to be, but if you're going to make revisions, I
- 15 would like to partake in the workshop process and
- 16 hereby request to be notified when those will take
- 17 place and request your help and assistance in
- 18 straightening out what is happening between the
- 19 landfill and El Dorado County and the Placer County
- 20 LEA.
- Thank's you, gentlemen, and any questions,
- 22 I'd be happy to answer.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Questions?
- 24 MEMBER JONES: I just have one.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Mr. Jones.
- MR. PROE: Yes, sir.

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1 MEMBER JONES: The issues that you bring
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- 2 forward to us on this -- and I'm glad you bring them
- 3 forward -- did you bring those forward to the local
- 4 elected officials.
- 5 MR. PROE: Yes, sir.
- 6 MEMBER JONES: The city council --
- 7 MR. PROE: Absolutely.
- 8 MEMBER JONES: -- the board of supervisors.
- 9 MR. PROE: The board of supervisors.
- 10 MEMBER JONES: Do they -- is there any --
- 11 MR. PROE: You know of the three furry
- 12 animals that that see together, well, we have at least
- 13 three of them that do that, and I'm not being
- 14 facetious. I'm being as straightforward as I can.
- 15 MEMBER JONES: I just wanted to be clear.
- MR. PROE: Yes, sir. I document everything
- 17 that I can. I put it in writing. I provide them with
- 18 the facts and figures and the letters from the
- 19 different agencies that say, "You can't do this until
- 20 you come forward with the plan, " and they ignore it.
- 21 MEMBER JONES: Okay. Thanks, Mr. Chairman.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Any other questions?
- Okay.
- MR. PROE: Thank you, gentlemen and staff.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Thank you.
- 26 How about a motion? Does anybody want to

- 1 make a motion on this?
- 2 MEMBER JONES: Actually, I'll make a motion
- 3 to adopt Resolution 98-99 with these changes,
- 4 MR. HOLMES: The correct number is --
- 5 MEMBER JONES: I'm sorry.
- 6 MR. HOLMES: 285.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: 98-285.
- 8 MR. HOLMES: 99 was the placeholder.
- 9 MEMBER JONES: Oh, 98?
- 10 MR. HOLMES: 285.
- 11 MEMBER JONES: 285. I hope I got the right
- 12 one.
- 13 MEMBER EATON: Do you have that?
- MEMBER JONES: No.
- 15 MEMBER EATON: I don't either.
- 16 MEMBER JONES: It's -- okay, turn the other
- 17 one. It's 99 -- yeah, 285. Yeah, that's it.
- 18 MEMBER JONES: Oh, I don't have that one.
- 19 MEMBER EATON: I don't have that one either.
- 20 MEMBER JONES: Okay. On A -- I have your
- 21 only copy? Perfect.
- MR. BLOCK: There was some in the back.
- 23 MEMBER JONES: On A I would like to include
- 24 at the end of that, "Revise regulations to provide
- 25 uptiering when operator and enforcement agency agree
- and to establish an appeal process when they don't."

- 1 THE SECRETARY: Could you repeat that
- 2 please? I'm sorry.
- 3 MEMBER JONES: "And to establish an appeal
- 4 process when they disagree. The appeal to be held here
- 5 or wherever." Under Title 27 where you're asking on
- 6 RFI amendments, I think "I" that if an amendment -- if
- 7 it can't be made through an amendment, then I think you
- 8 need to go for a new permit. It's going to be part of
- 9 the RSU issue anyway.
- 10 MEMBER EATON: Then delete double I?
- 11 MEMBER JONES: Yeah. Then double I as our
- 12 other option.
- 13 C. I don't have any problem with C, leaving
- 14 that in there. For standardized permits either revise
- 15 regulations or delegate the authority. I would like
- 16 us -- that's where I'd like to add that we work on the
- 17 procedure to determine when we accept something as
- 18 complete. Is that reasonable?
- MR. BLOCK: That would be in the form of,
- 20 essentially, like an LEA determines an application to
- 21 be complete and correct. That would be a similar
- 22 determination of Board staff and that would start the
- 23 clock when that completeness and correctiveness
- 24 determination is made.
- 25 MEMBER JONES: Well, that's what I want to
- 26 discuss is when does our clock start? When do we

- 1 determine that it is, in fact, a complete permit so
- 2 that we don't get jammed with a week left and have to
- 3 scramble after the city council --
- 4 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Well, maybe that's
- 5 what we say. The 30- or 60-day clock starts when the
- 6 CIWMB staff determines that it's complete.
- 7 MS. TOBIAS: Could you make that a
- 8 suggestion so that we can look at it? I need to
- 9 look -- we need to look at it and basically see if we
- 10 can do that. So I think the suggestion is fine. I
- 11 just want to see if we have the authority to do that.
- 12 MEMBER FRAZEE: The issue is being raised by
- 13 a member of my staff. He thinks that would require a
- 14 statutory change to allow that.
- MS. TOBIAS: I think that's a possibility,
- 16 but let's make it the suggestion. I have no problem
- 17 with making it the suggestion. Let's look at it and
- 18 see if there's a way to do it.
- 19 MEMBER JONES: I think when we had the
- 20 discussions, it was brought up that it may take a
- 21 statutory change, but we never defined when we consider
- 22 it to be complete.
- 23 MS. TOBIAS: Well, the worst that comes out
- of it is we come back and say, "Would you like to do a
- 25 statutory change on this?"
- MEMBER JONES: Right, or we define

- 1 "complete."
- 2 And that's the motion.
- 3 THE SECRETARY: What was the final on D?
- 4 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: It should say, CIWMB
- 5 staff deems the application to --
- 6 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman, how about on
- 7 this one here, we strike them both and then try the --
- 8 and try working on the thing. We just won't deal
- 9 with --
- 10 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay.
- 11 MEMBER JONES: So, we'll strike D. We'll
- 12 strike D and add that we need to work on the clock.
- 13 And if you got that, Marlene, you're doing
- 14 good, 'cause I'm not sure I even remember what I said.
- THE SECRETARY: I got you on tape.
- 16 MEMBER JONES: Well, that was my motion
- 17 Mr. Chairman, as convulted and as --
- 18 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: I'll second your
- 19 motion.
- 20 If there's no further discussion, will the
- 21 secretary all the roll.
- 22 THE SECRETARY: Board Member Eaton.
- MEMBER EATON: Aye.
- 24 THE SECRETARY: Frazee.
- MEMBER FRAZEE: Aye.
- THE SECRETARY: Jones.

- 1 MEMBER JONES: Aye.
- THE SECRETARY: Chairman Pennington.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Aye. Motion carries.
- 4 I'd like to move to Item 15. We have some
- 5 folks here that are from Illinois and they're obviously
- 6 going either to take the red eye back or spend the
- 7 night. We'd like to get them out so at least they can
- 8 get some dinner or get to the airport.
- 9 MEMBER JONES: They have a lot greater
- 10 appreciation for Illinois right now.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: All right. Update on
- 12 the Rigid Plastic Packaging Container Certification
- 13 Process for 1996. Oral presentation. Caren Trgovich.
- 14 AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 15
- MS. TRGOVICH: Good afternoon,
- 16 Chairman Pennington and members. This will be an oral
- 17 update where we will be providing you with information
- 18 on the status of the RPPC certification process.
- 19 John Nuffer who's the program manager will provide you
- 20 with that.
- 21 Additionally, there's some individuals, as
- 22 you mentioned, that would like to, I believe, address
- 23 the Board on matters pertaining to the certification
- 24 process.
- MR. NUFFER: Thank you, Caren, Board
- 26 members. I'm John Nuffer with the Waste Prevention and

- 1 Market Development Division.
- 2 As you recall we randomly selected 500
- 3 manufactures throughout the country. We mailed
- 4 certification forms to them. By statute they had 60
- 5 days within which to respond. We mailed those forms on
- 6 the July 6th, so the time is up for most of the
- 7 companies that we contacted. Price-Waterhouse staff
- 8 and staff here have heard from about 250 companies.
- 9 132 of those said that they aren't required to submit
- 10 the forms. In other words, 132 said they didn't use
- 11 RPPC's in 1996. We will be following up with those
- 12 companies to make sure that information is correct. 50
- 13 companies requested extensions, meaning they're filling
- 14 out the forms, gathering information and will be
- 15 submitting the forms within 30 days. We're processing
- 16 those extensions presently. There are 48 companies
- 17 that requested exemptions from the requirements, and
- 18 there are several allowances in statute, and we're
- 19 processing those exemptions currently. 22 have
- 20 supplied information and the forms as required, and
- 21 Price-Waterhouse will be entering the data into their
- 22 database shortly. The balance of about 250 have not
- 23 submitted anything and we have not heard from. We
- 24 intend to call those companies and find out what the
- 25 situation is.
- 26 Of the 22 that submitted data, those

- 1 companies had products -- had a number of products
- 2 ranging anywhere from 1 product to 150 products that
- 3 they had to certify. Five of the companies reported
- 4 that they were probably not in compliance.
- 5 That's the brief update. If you have any
- 6 questions, we'd be happy to answer them.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Questions?
- 8 MEMBER EATON: For the numbers, we got 250
- 9 that did not submit; correct?
- MR. NUFFER: Yes.
- 11 MEMBER EATON: Another 22 who had submitted.
- 12 Five who submitted but said they were probably not in
- 13 compliance -- I think is the term you used.
- MR. NUFFER: Yes.
- 15 MEMBER EATON: And then 132 said that they
- 16 did not use RPPC's during the time frame by which we
- 17 are seeking the information?
- 18 MR. NUFFER: Yes.
- 19 MEMBER EATON: And 48 sought exemptions?
- 20 MR. NUFFER: Right.
- 21 MEMBER EATON: And what was the other
- 22 figure?
- MR. NUFFER: 50 requested extensions. So
- there should be at least 72 companies that are
- 25 supplying information.
- 26 MEMBER EATON: Do any of the 132 that said

- 1 they didn't use them sort of stick out?
- 2 MR. NUFFER: We haven't had a chance to go
- 3 to Price-Waterhouse and get look at that information.
- 4 We'll be doing that.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay? Okay.
- Frederick -- is it Kulevich?
- 7 MR. KULEVICH: Yes. Thank you. Good
- 8 afternoon -- or good evening as I suppose is in order.
- 9 My name is Frederick J. Kulevich. I'm senior counsel
- 10 for Sears Roebuck & Company. At Sears I'm responsible
- 11 for a wide range of environmental legal issues,
- 12 including those relating to regulatory compliance. I'm
- 13 here today, however, to provide information to the
- 14 Board regarding the difficulty retailers like Sears
- 15 have in responding to the certification request for the
- 16 Ridged Plastic Packaging and Container Program.
- 17 We very much appreciate the opportunity to
- 18 make this presentation to the Board and the courtesy
- 19 the staff has extended to us in earlier meetings today.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: I'm sorry you had to
- 21 wait so long.
- MR. KULEVICH: That's understandable.
- Sears is a nationwide retailer, as many of
- 24 you may know, selling a broad range of apparel,
- 25 automotive, and other household products and services
- 26 through our department stores or automotive centers,

- 1 our product service centers and hardware stores.
- 2 Although we sell a large number of private lable
- 3 brands, we don't actually manufacture any products.
- 4 Instead we purchase these products from a large number
- 5 of manufacturers who in turn purchase the containers
- 6 from an equally large numbers of container suppliers.
- 7 Sears has had a long history of corporate
- 8 commitment to recycling programs, and on a voluntary
- 9 basis, for example, Sears has implemented a recycling
- 10 program that during the first eight months of 1998 it
- 11 resulted in a recycling of 6.5 million pounds of
- 12 cardboard, 5.6 million hangers, half a million auto
- 13 batteries, and 490,000 pounds of scrap tools, and
- 14 that's in California alone.
- 15 Because the act refers to manufacturers and
- 16 distributors, we don't believe the act actually applies
- 17 to a retailer such as Sears, but setting that aside, we
- 18 thought it might be helpful to give the Board a flavor
- 19 of the difficulties a retailer like Sears is facing in
- 20 trying to respond to the certification request.
- 21 Because Sears purchases prepackaged products, it does
- 22 not capture packaging information for its products as
- 23 part of its day-to-day record keeping. While a
- 24 manufacturer may need to capture such information in
- 25 order to manufacture or appropriate quantities of
- 26 packages, a retailer like Sears has really no

- 1 independent business reason to keep such information.
- 2 Since Sears does not have records specifying the
- 3 packaging type for thousands and thousands of products
- 4 it sold in its stores in 1996, Sears has had to rely on
- 5 its current product assortment to try to get an
- 6 understanding of the scope of the issue that we're
- 7 facing. Therefore, in August, Sears commissioned an
- 8 inventory that was to be conducted by an outside
- 9 inventory firm we use to do our quarterly inventories
- 10 and supervised by a national environmental consultant,
- 11 Fluor Daniel GTI to make sure that we were identifying
- 12 the correct products. They were charged to go to four
- 13 representative retail formats for Sears, which are the
- 14 Sears full line department store, the Sears automotive
- 15 center, a Sears product service center, and a hardware
- 16 store. These stores were all located in Torrence,
- 17 California, and they were considered representative
- 18 because they represent the four formats we have that
- 19 are most likely to sell products in RPPC.
- 20 As a result of the inventory review, we
- 21 identified over 1,000 products which may be packaged in
- 22 RPPC. From that over 1,000 products we began a process
- 23 of identifying individual products and trying to
- 24 evaluate if they actually fell within the precise
- 25 definition, and we've made some calls and excluded a
- 26 number of the products from that list, and we're still

- 1 in the process of defining the list, but currently
- 2 we're at 370 products that we believel may be packaged
- 3 in RPPC.
- 4 Sears currently purchased these products
- 5 from approximately 80 to 90 separate manufacturers with
- 6 an untold number of container manufacturers. In order
- 7 to submit the certifications requested by the Board,
- 8 Sears would first need to identify this list for the
- 9 products it sold in 1996, and then obtain information
- 10 regarding recycling rates or source reduction from each
- 11 of the manufacturers who in turn may have to go back to
- 12 the container manufacturers to get the actual data.
- 13 The time and resources to attempt to attain the
- 14 information are substantial, as you can imagine, and
- 15 the information just may not be available. In fact, we
- 16 believe the cost of identifying and tracking packaging
- on the ongoing basis and obtaining this information
- 18 would probably far exceed the maximum penalties under
- 19 the act.
- 20 Clearly within the time allotted for
- 21 responding to certification, it's not possible for
- 22 Sears to provide the requested information. Even with
- 23 the additional 30-day extension, which we have
- 24 received, it's not possible to identify all the
- 25 products that may have been in RPPC during 1996, much
- 26 less send and receive the responses to our request for

- 1 information to the manufacturers, who in turn would
- 2 talk to container manufacturers. However, because
- 3 Sears is committed to recycling efforts and in
- 4 assisting the Board in its goal in meeting certain
- 5 recycling targets, we met with the staff earlier this
- 6 afternoon to discuss a protocol for providing
- 7 certification data for a number of representative
- 8 products currently sold in Sears stores. We believe
- 9 the undertaking of this protocol would assist the staff
- 10 in evaluating the difficulties retailers such as Sears
- 11 face in putting together this information. We
- 12 understand the staff cannot act on its own initiative
- 13 to accept this protocol and, therefore, we request the
- 14 issue of this protocol be added to the October 6th,
- 15 1998, meeting of the Board.
- 16 Sears is committed to working with the Board
- 17 and the staff to develop a protocol and provide
- 18 information on its representative sample of products to
- 19 allow the staff and the Board to evaluate the
- 20 difficulty that retailers face in complying with these
- 21 provisions, and we engage in this process with the hope
- 22 that the Board will consider amendments to the
- 23 regulation that will address concerns faced by
- 24 retailers.
- I very much appreciate the opportunity to
- 26 speak before you, and I'd be happy to answer any

- 1 questions you may have at this time.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Any questions?
- 3 Mr. Eaton.
- 4 MEMBER EATON: I have a couple of questions.
- With regard to some of your products,
- 6 without trying to get into any proprietary information,
- 7 do you sell a number of these products under, you know,
- 8 sort of like Craftsman oil or any of the Sears name as
- 9 opposed to even though you may use another national
- 10 vendor who may sell under it's own name, but because of
- 11 your purchasing and how you do business you may just
- 12 buy in bulk and just say, you know, I need 10 million,
- 13 you know, quarts of blank, some product? Is that how
- 14 you normally work, but it's sold under the Sears name?
- MR. KULEVICH: That's correct for some
- 16 products.
- 17 MEMBER EATON: For some products.
- MS. TRGOVICH: Member Eaton, perhaps it
- 19 would help, I believe Mr. Kulevich made a statement
- 20 earlier in terms of how they don't believe that they
- 21 are covered under the law. I think your question gets
- 22 to an issue around the regulations, around the statute
- 23 itself, and maybe, Debbie, if you could just briefly
- 24 describe why they are covered and for what types of
- 25 products they are covered.
- 26 MEMBER EATON: I'm seeking to see if he

- 1 wants to rat on the manufacturers. That's where I'm
- 2 going.
- 3 MS. TRGOVICH: I think basically for the
- 4 other members, though, who expressed and appeared to be
- 5 concerned about that, it's the way the term "product
- 6 manufacturer" is defined, and the fact that these
- 7 products that Mr. Kulevich is referring to are products
- 8 that Sears' name is on. There is not another product
- 9 manufacturer's name on them. They contract, purchase
- 10 those products, put them in their stores with the
- 11 Craftsman name or with other Sears' names on them, so
- 12 they are identified, therefore, as the product
- 13 manufacturer.
- 14 DEBBIE: Well, just to reiterate what Caren
- 15 said, the regulation, basically I don't think there was
- 16 any other way in the regulation they could identify who
- 17 the manufacturer was if there wasn't a name on the
- 18 product. So I think that's how the regulation got
- 19 developed the way that it was.
- 20 So the hierarchy is, if it's the person who
- 21 actually manufactured the products, the name is on the
- 22 product, that's who we would go after, but if we don't
- 23 have that then we would need -- we go by whose name is
- 24 on the product.
- 25 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman?
- 26 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Yes.

- 1 MEMBER JONES: I want to ask Caren a
- 2 question.
- 3 This protocol that you're looking at for
- 4 items in 1998, you know, I mean, we're listening to
- 5 this item, and I have to go back to Member Frazee's
- 6 very sage assessment of this particular program, but
- 7 was part of the protocol a commitment to spec material
- 8 with postconsumer content in it?
- 9 MS. TRGOVICH: I think that's a question
- 10 you'll have to pose to the Sears representative.
- 11 MEMBER JONES: Damn, I was hoping that they
- 12 would have offered it up. It would make the
- 13 bookkeeping easier.
- 14 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Mr. Eaton?
- 15 MEMBER EATON: Yeah. So, I just want to
- 16 kind of -- I don't have a problem, first, in setting an
- 17 agenda item for October 6th. I'm trying to work
- 18 through some of the issues, because I think it is part
- 19 of the frustration of everyone is how do you get at
- 20 really who the culprit is, and what do you call it,
- 21 vicarious liability, or what have you, you're there,
- 22 but it would be helpful if we could kind of get some
- 23 sense of the types of products that might be included
- 24 with a national retairler and obviously -- what, do you
- 25 provide specs to them in any respect in the sense of
- 26 any kind of packaging requirements, or -- I mean,

- 1 obviously you've got disclaimers and you've got
- 2 warnings and all kinds of things that you have to
- 3 contend with.
- 4 MR. KULEVICH: Actually, very few specific
- 5 specifications for product packaging. We actually rely
- 6 very heavily, as our manufacturers, to provide
- 7 packaging that complies with all requirements. A lot
- 8 of the products we're talking about are small or high
- 9 volume products that aren't the big ticket that would
- 10 require specification.
- 11 MEMBER EATON: Like, for example?
- 12 MR. KULEVICH: Drill bits. I've actually
- 13 got a sample or two here if you're interested in seeing
- 14 the packaging, but containers of putty which would fall
- 15 within -- that's kind of a standard container that we
- 16 would inspect.
- 17 MEMBER EATON: So if I'm clear, what you're
- 18 asking is that if on October 6th we can try and see
- 19 what kind of either clarification or process by which
- 20 you would be able to do, and I'll let you fill in the
- 21 blank.
- MR. KULEVICH: These are just -- while
- 23 answering your question -- these are some examples of
- 24 some of the packages -- clam shell packages that we've
- 25 discovered. Some of them are below the size
- 26 specifications, but they give you a good idea of what

- 1 we're talking about.
- To answer your question specifically, what
- 3 we intend to do is have further discussions with the
- 4 staff to develop a protocol to provide information
- 5 that's going to be, I think, helpful to the Board and
- 6 the staff in evaluating the regulations and the
- 7 information you're looking for regarding recycling.
- 8 Our major problem, frankly, is the '96 data. It's just
- 9 not available within Sears, and it isn't readily
- 10 available by the -- it isn't available, period, by the
- 11 October 6th date. So we want -- rather than just send
- 12 a certification without the information, we want to
- 13 cooperate, obviously, with the Board and the staff to
- 14 give you something that may be useful.
- MS. TRGOVICH: Member Eaton, if I could just
- 16 point out, I want to make sure there's no lack of
- 17 clarity here.
- October 6th, I believe, is Sears' deadline
- on their 30-day extension, so I believe that what
- 20 they're requesting here is that they be given an
- 21 opportunity to come forward, have you consider an
- 22 alternative protocol with respect to the number of
- 23 products that they would have to submit certifications
- 24 for, and that will take them past their October 6th
- 25 deadline, and I want to make sure that everyone's clear
- 26 on that.

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1 MEMBER FRAZEE: Just as a, sort of a point
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- of order, I don't think any of these packages qualify.
- 3 MS. TRGOVICH: The largest one may, and it
- 4 would be an issue likely around the weight because --
- 5 MEMBER FRAZEE: They're capable of being
- 6 closed.
- 7 MS. TRGOVICH: Capable of multiple
- 8 reclosure, correct. Not intended for multiple
- 9 reclosure, but capable.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Mr. Jones.
- 11 MEMBER JONES: We're down this road
- 12 obviously because in the state of California in a -- in
- 13 an effort to promote recycling of plastic, there were
- 14 four criteria put in place, one of them being that it
- 15 is proven that so much of this material be collected
- 16 and recovered, and that didn't happen this year. It
- 17 almost didn't happen the year before, but it met a
- 18 range, and that fact that we didn't recover those
- 19 items -- or that the number didn't work out right for
- 20 the recovery, now all these other things trigger that
- 21 make if Sears of the world and everybody else have to
- 22 deal with this issue in California. I'm wondering at
- 23 what point does it become such a burden on Sears and
- 24 such a pain that maybe the people that make that
- 25 packaging, or that represent those packagers, that you
- 26 don't tell them, "Figure out a way to get this thing up

- 1 to 25 percent," because we don't want to go through
- 2 this thing? And maybe we need to look at what was the
- 3 intent behind this law, and I don't even presume to
- 4 know what the intent was, but it would seem to me that
- 5 this is a good opportunity for companies like Sears to
- 6 let the manufacturers of plastic packaging know that,
- 7 you know, there is an easy threshold to meet in
- 8 California that doesn't put the burden on me, and since
- 9 I'm the 800-pound gorilla that's buying the stuff, make
- 10 it happen. I mean, I would offer it as a suggestion
- 11 because it would not only help, I hope, yourselves, but
- 12 you'd help the state of California, and you'd help
- 13 those legislatures that tried to come up with a method
- 14 to make sure that we recovered that material, and
- 15 Mr. Frazee has often said, you know, to try to quantify
- 16 where these folks are using that material is going to
- 17 put such a burden on that -- and if we enforce it, then
- 18 that's usually the best way to get rid of a law that's
- 19 hard to deal with. All we have to do is enforce it.
- 20 So before we get to that point with throwing
- 21 that thing out, I would prefer that, you know, the
- 22 message goes back, and the message goes to RPA, and the
- 23 message goes to those people that provide you
- 24 packaging, and we're aware that packaging is critical
- 25 for a lot of different reasons, but let them know the
- 26 dynamic of the pain that this has caused and that the

- 1 effort has to be made, you know. New products need to
- 2 be built with recovered plastic, and then this issue
- 3 goes away, and I don't want that loss.
- 4 MR. KULEVICH: I think what we're
- 5 actually -- that's one of the things we are willing to
- 6 discuss with regard to how can we best achieve the
- 7 actual goals that you're trying to get at, rather than
- 8 the certification, which is the initial problem for us,
- 9 the short-term problem. The longer-term problems we're
- 10 willing to entertain. Things Sears can do to advance
- 11 that goal.
- 12 MEMBER JONES: Right.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Any further questions?
- 14 Thank you.
- MR. KULEVICH: Thank you.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Randy Pollack.
- 17 MR. POLLACK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
- 18 members of the Board. Randy Pollack on behalf of the
- 19 Soap and Detergent Association. I just want to just
- 20 make a couple brief remarks.
- 21 One, Mr. Jones, we are working very hard in
- 22 the manufacturer area to reduce our plastic and to use
- 23 recycled product, and we've been very successful over
- 24 the years. We know that we have some ways to go and we
- 25 are working every day on those. Clorox, for example,
- 26 has been very successful in those efforts, along with

- 1 other companies, such as Procter & Gamble. So we are
- 2 working towards those efforts, and we look forward to
- 3 working with retailers like Sears to improve that.
- Additionally, the one comment that I also
- 5 wanted to make is that if there's a protocol
- 6 established by the staff, we'd just like for that to be
- 7 shared with some of the interested parties.
- 8 MEMBER JONES: Sounds reasonable.
- 9 MR. POLLACK: Thank you very much.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Any questions of
- 11 Randy?
- 12 MEMBER JONES: No. Just so we do know that
- 13 Clorox and those folks are working hard, believe me.
- 14 We know that. You let us know us every time you see
- 15 us.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay.
- 17 MEMBER EATON: It's those other 150 we're
- 18 looking for.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: We have two items, 13,
- 20 which is, Consideration of approval of the report to
- 21 the legislature entitled, "Feasibility Study on the
- 22 Expanded Use of Forest and Agricultural Waste in the
- 23 Production of Commercial Products."
- We're going to break.
- 25 (Break taken.)
- 26 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. Let's move to

- 1 item 14, which is, I'm told, very quick. Consideration
- 2 of the proposed 1998 Waste Reduction Awards Program,
- 3 WRAP-of-the-year winners. So wrap it up.
- 4 AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 14
- 5 MR. HUNTS: Good evening, Mr. Chairman,
- 6 Board members. Thank you for allowing me to take care
- 7 of this today.
- 8 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Would you state you
- 9 name for the record.
- 10 MR. HUNTS: Jeff Hunts with the waste
- 11 prevention and market development division.
- 12 The item before you the is consideration of
- 13 the proposed WRAP-of-the-year winners. The WRAP
- 14 program, as it has in the past two years, has evaluated
- 15 the regular WRAP winners. This year there were nearly
- 16 400 to select the best of the best. A candidate pool
- 17 was formed. A blue ribbon evaluation panel evaluated
- 18 the candidate list. They selected ten proposed
- 19 winners, whose businesses are listed on your
- 20 Attachment 1. In the interest of time, I won't read
- 21 them right now.
- The staff recommend the adoption of
- 23 Resolution 98-288 and designating the list of proposed
- 24 winners as the 1998 WRAP-of-the-year winners.
- 25 I'd be happy to answer any questions about
- 26 the process or the businesses or anything else about

- 1 the program.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Any questions?
- If not, as the one who signed all 490 of
- 4 them, or whatever it was, I'll move adoption of
- 5 Resolution 98-288.
- 6 MEMBER FRAZEE: I will second.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: If there's no further
- 8 discussion, will the --
- 9 MEMBER JONES: Just one question,
- 10 Mr. Chairman. I don't have any problem with moving
- 11 these ones through, but I'd like to see an item next
- 12 time that determines how we're going to give these
- 13 awards out, because I think these are pretty arbitrary,
- 14 and, you know, I'd just like to see the process, unless
- 15 we decide it not to fund it because the union doesn't
- 16 want us to. At that point, it's a moot point.
- MR. HUNTS: I can assure you that the money
- 18 is spent on more than just printing and mailing.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay. If there is no
- 20 further discussion, will the secretary call the roll.
- 21 THE SECRETARY: Board Member Eaton.
- 22 MEMBER EATON: Is that part of the
- 23 resolution that we would have a discussion?
- 24 MEMBER JONES: No. I'm just asking that we
- 25 have a discussion on the criteria.
- MEMBER EATON: Aye.

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1 THE SECRETARY: Frazee.
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- 2 MEMBER FRAZEE: Aye.
- 3 THE SECRETARY: Jones.
- 4 MEMBER JONES: Aye.
- 5 THE SECRETARY: Chairman Pennington.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Aye. Thank you. The
- 7 motion carries. Thank you.
- Now, we'll move to the Resolution 98-316,
- 9 Consideration of adoption of an addendum to the
- 10 mitigated negative declaration prepared by the City of
- 11 Arcata Community Development Department for the
- 12 Humboldt County Waste Management Authority Transfer
- 13 Station, Humboldt County.
- MS. TOBIAS: Mr. Chairman?
- 15 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Ms. Tobias.
- MS. TOBIAS: For your reading pleasure, at
- 17 the third page on the bottom, I have the language that
- 18 I've revised down there at the bottom underneath
- 19 Ralph's signature. However, what I've done is I've
- 20 actually revised the whole resolution. I've taken out
- 21 the so-called offending paragraphs and then put that
- 22 language in the paragraph that is at the bottom of
- 23 page 2. So if you look the at the second page, you'll
- 24 see in the middle of the page, "The addendum provides
- 25 clarifying information." Then it goes right into the
- 26 fact that the Authority has jurisdiction and has agreed

- 1 to hold a hearing.
- 2 And then the last paragraph on page 2 is the
- 3 one that wraps up a lot of our reasons for doing what
- 4 we're doing, and you'll see in the of middle of that
- 5 paragraph, starting on the third line, it says that,
- 6 "Business capacity and competitiveness reasons would
- 7 cause closure of a self-haul facility in the city of
- 8 Eureka, and thus the potential closure is not a
- 9 reasonably foreseeable consequence or automatic result
- 10 of the project, and, therefore, that potential closure
- 11 is not a part of the proposed project and need not be
- 12 addressed by the responsible agency." So what I did
- 13 was, in the effort to address your concerns, is I
- 14 basically, instead of starting the sentence or the
- 15 clause, as it was, with reasonable and foreseeable, I
- 16 put the issue that I really want to get in up front,
- 17 which is that there are other reasons that would cause
- 18 closure of a self-haul facility as opposed to this
- 19 particular transfer station. So I think I removed the
- 20 word "revengeful," hard as that was for me, and
- 21 actually I think this reads well. So I would commend
- 22 it to your recommendation.
- 23 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman?
- 24 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Discussion?
- Mr. Jones.
- 26 MEMBER JONES: Yes. Question.

- 1 Under the whereas where we've identified the
- 2 five items.
- 3 MS. TOBIAS: Yes.
- 4 MEMBER JONES: That "this CEQA analysis does
- 5 not cover activity at any other location." One the
- 6 issues that I brought up when we were talking about
- 7 this was that if they don't find another location,
- 8 they, in fact, can turn this into a permanent facility.
- 9 Does that sentence in resolution let them expand that
- 10 project without going through? Because if it does --
- 11 MS. TOBIAS: That's a good point because --
- 12 I need a copy of the addendum. I got it.
- 13 If you notice in the addendum, and if you
- 14 turn to page 4, and there's Number 4 says, "Limitation
- 15 on the use of this mitigated negative declarations for
- 16 other projects. The use of this mitigated neg-dec is
- 17 limited to the temporary waste transfer station does
- 18 not address any other site, project configuration or
- 19 transfer of wastes and, therefore, may not be used for
- 20 any other potential locations for a temporary or
- 21 permanent waste transfer system. Further on it may not
- 22 be used as an environmental document for a permanent
- 23 transfer station." So I think that covers if they say
- 24 this is to become permanent, and I don't know what that
- 25 bracket's doing there, but that bracket should be out
- 26 "or for transport of wastes from the permit transfer

- 1 station into the landfill by rail or truck" -- omit
- 2 that other bracket -- "when permitting for that
- 3 facility begins."
- 4 So I don't have a problem if you want to add
- 5 something else to this. It says "does not cover
- 6 activity at any other location or any expansion at this
- 7 site," but I would say that legally speaking, this
- 8 addendum, you know, and the resolution will be read
- 9 together, but as I say, if you want to add that, I
- 10 don't have a problem, and I don't think anybody else
- 11 would, adding, you know, "or any expansion at this
- 12 site." do you want to do that?
- 13 MEMBER JONES: I'd prefer it if the other
- 14 Board members do.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: That's fine with me.
- MS. TOBIAS: So it will read, "at any other
- 17 location or any expansion at this site," and I think
- 18 expansion would be enough because of what's already in
- 19 the addendum. So I don't think I have to, you know,
- 20 include "expansion of rail haul, expansion of tonnage,
- 21 expansion of additional trucks, "because I think that's
- 22 covered, and I intend it to be covered.
- 23 MEMBER JONES: Yeah, because there is no
- 24 such thing as a temporary permit.
- MS. TOBIAS: Nope. I should say no.
- MEMBER JONES: Nope works.

- 1 MS. TOBIAS: Any other suggestions?
- 2 I appreciate the clarifications on this, and
- 3 I think it reads well to reflect the judgment of the
- 4 Board today.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Okay.
- 6 MS. TOBIAS: I'd like you to just approve
- 7 it. You've already approved the --
- 8 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Any further
- 9 discussion.
- 10 MEMBER FRAZEE: I would move that we concur
- in the modified language on Resolution 98-316 as
- 12 presented by counsel.
- 13 MEMBER JONES: With my --
- 14 MEMBER FRAZEE: Yes.
- 15 MEMBER JONES: All right. I'll second it.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: All right. It's been
- 17 moved and seconded. If there's no further discussion,
- 18 will the secretary call the roll.
- 19 THE SECRETARY: Board Member Eaton.
- 20 MEMBER EATON: Aye.
- 21 THE SECRETARY: Frazee.
- 22 MEMBER FRAZEE: Aye.
- THE SECRETARY: Jones.
- MEMBER JONES: Aye.
- THE SECRETARY: Chairman Pennington.
- 26 CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: Aye. Motion carries.

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1
                MS. TOBIAS: Thank you.
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                CHAIRMAN PENNINGTON: We will recess now
     until 9:30 tomorrow morning when we will take up CB 6,
 3
     the contract concepts, Item 6, the Green Building Tech
     Center, Item 9, the State legislation, and Item 13,
 5
 6
     Forest and Ag report to the legislature.
 7
                If there being no further business before us
 8
     we'll recess till 9:30.
 9
                (Whereupon the proceedings concluded at
10
                5:42 P.M.)
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1	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE				
2	STATE OF CALIFORNIA)				
3	COUNTY OF SOLANO)				
4	I, JANENE R. BIGGS, a Certified Shorthand				
5	Reporter, licensed by the state of California and				
6	empowered to administer oaths and affirmations pursuant				
7	to Section 2093 (b) of the Code of Civil Procedure, do				
8	hereby certify:				
9	That the proceedings were recorded				
10	stenographically by me and were thereafter transcribed				
11	under my direction via computer-assisted transcription;				
12	That the foregoing transcript is a true				
13	record of the proceedings which then and there took				
14	place;				
15	That I am a disinterested person to said				
16	action.				
17	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my				
18	name on October 14, 1998.				
19					
20					
21	Janene R. Biggs				
22	Certified Shorthand Reporter No. 11307				
23					
24					
25					
26					